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TO CHARLES DICKENS.

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER,
BY THE AUTHOR OF DON JUAN IN AMERICA.

Now Charlie be easy, remember the poor—
You've done it in novels full often, I'm sure;
You know they can't bear the two dollars expense,
So give a cheap reading at twenty-five cents.

There's many a "swindler" of genius and pride
Who dodges the corners where "bull-dogs" abide,
Who, tho' hungry by day and chilly by night,
Would give his last quarter to hear you recite.

There are "Oliver Twists" right here on the street
Who would go their whole pile on a single back seat,
And "Pips" who would gladly forego bread and butter
To hear the rich tones of the words that you utter.

'Tis not from the wealthy who simper and fawn
That the truest and best of your heroes are drawn,
Nor do you admire the sour milk and water
That's held by the stays of John Shoddyite's daughter.

To half of your British-born notions you'd budge
If you wish to be heard by "Barnaby Rudge,"
And cheapness will give you some noble recruits,
Tho' "that's of no consequence"—quoting from Toots.

Be low in your rates if you wish to rake in
The people who dwell in the regions of sin;
Unless you charge little you'll not see the likes
Of Nancy, the Artful, Charley Bates and Bill Sykes.

Yes, give a cheap reading, you well can afford it,
And, as for the cash, you never can hoard it,
So little it matters; give Dolby directions
To let in the men from the poverty sections.

We love you, Charles Dickens, we take every hit
That you gave in your "Notes"—'twas the outburst of wit;
But don't go away till your reading anoints
The rough, rugged region that's found in Five Points.

Then Charlie be easy, remember the poor—
A word to the wise is sufficient, I'm sure;
You know they can't bear the two dollars expense,
So give a cheap reading at twenty-five cents.

THE LIVING DEATH.

A TALE OF EVERYDAY MARTYRDOM.

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER,
BY J. WOODRUFF LEWIS.
Author of "The Skeleton Hand," etc., etc.

CHAPTER I.

THE DARKNESS SETTING IN.

The day is merging into night. The sky, so long ghastly and pallid, has acquired the blackness of a winter tempest. The air contains a drizzling mist, which a little additional cold will change into sleet. The street lamps are being lighted. The mansions of wealth in Fifth avenue and Union square, alive with preparations for gatherings and parties, already look radiant and dazzling in their comforts and splendors. The hovels of destitution between Centre street and the Bowery, in the indistinctness of twilight, look more and more squalid and forbidding. The stages continue roaring on Broadway; the cars grind and rattle on the avenues, and the cutting blasts of a December evening are whistling and wailing throughout the city. All classes, from the portly merchant to the pale shop-girl, are wending their several ways home. Files of wealth's idlers, of crime's mercenaries, of gold's hirelings, of fashion's puppets, of poverty's sufferers and of labor's noblemen, are going up and down the streets in promiscuous streams, all jostling and crowding in a buzz of business or pleasure, each seeking his own end and thinking his own thoughts.

Thus is passing the day.

Thus is coming the night.

Thus the living tide of humanity is sweeping onward with its miseries and mysteries, its sins and virtues, its dirt and its diamonds, its glory and its shame.

And amid the passing throngs, in the rapidly accumulating shades of the hour, a man goes across several avenues and down a narrow street, hurrying on in silence, till he arrives at one of those underground basements in such general use among the humbler classes of the great metropolis, where he noiselessly passes down a stone cellarway and enters a door, shaking the drizzling mist from an old hat and coat, looking earnestly around the apartment and moving his head mournfully, while he gives utterance to a deep sigh.

This man is a laborer.

This basement is his home.

The one and the other are soon dimly revealed by the fragment of tallow candle he hastens to light.

He stands there, in that cold and desolate apartment, with his dead child and sick wife lying equally silent behind him, his appearance that of a wounded lion at bay. His face is thin and haggard, his manner nervous and excited, and his eyes wild and terrible in their expression.

"If I only had work," he says, wringing his hard and calloused hands. "Work of some kind, at some price! All the day, the whole month, looking for employment, and nothing to do—where will it end? Now that winter's come, times 're hard, thousands 're out of a job, and a poor man's always too much under the harrow to lay up a cent against a rainy day. Living from hand to mouth, as most of us do, the hand must keep a digging somewhere, or the mouth will go unfed. And now—what's to be done?"

Unlettered this man certainly was, but his was a good and noble soul. As much could have been seen in the glances turning to his sleeping wife, and in the tears dimming his eyes when they rested on the thin and colorless features of the dead babe.

Worthy is this man though his condition is humble. Let us know him and love him!

His name was Edward Clayton. He was a carpenter by trade. He was of English birth, and had resided in America about fourteen years, the most of the time gaining a comfortable subsistence, but never saving much money ahead. For nearly a year he had been getting poorer and poorer, securing only small jobs, at low wages, and enduring the exactions of landlords and pawnbrokers, with sickness and death in the family, till he had finally reached the trying and disheartening situation in which we make his acquaintance.

"God only knows where it's all to end," he continued, in a husky voice. "Perhaps in a change for the better—perhaps in death! I've tried to fight off sickness—the bitter cold—starvation; but we're coming to it at last! For *her* sake," and he glanced at the white face showing out of the gloom behind him, while his voice became broken, "I have tried to be hopeful—to be cheerful—but it seems that there's no longer any use of patience. Since I was driven away from England by the persecutions and annoyances of the Earl of Glenston, and by the abduction of my boy at the hands of the gipsy leader, I have not seen a darker hour. All hungry—all shivering—all ragged! I must give over the struggle sooner or later—perhaps as well now! Oh! if God would only be pleased ——"

He seemed to realize that he was getting terribly excited—to fear that he might awaken his sleeping wife. He bowed himself low upon a broken stool, the nearest approach to a chair that his desolate apartment possessed, and choked down his emotions, more than once gasping for breath, as if he had been half-suffocated by those despairing words.

"It's a small matter that one's wife and children," he finally added in a lower tone, "even if they're dying for want of bread. One man wishes to know what right a body has to have a family he's not able to support? Another hints at idleness, extravagance and dram-drinking, and wonders where are the police, that he must be annoyed by people as are nobodies, and have'nt any money. And so, 'mong them all there's nothing to do to earn a cent. Oh, come in Madam! don't be alarmed!"

In answer to this last observation of the carpenter, enters the figure he has seen distinctly poking it's way down the basement steps; enters the Secretary of the Ladies's Association for the Dissemination of the Gospel among the Heathen; enters an Own Cousin of the Great Reverend Doctor W. Sepulchre, LL.D., D. D.; enters a bright and shining Testimony for the Lamb; enters a Pillar of the Church; enters a Gifted Sister who writes frequent communications to *Zion's Herald and Mouthpiece of Redemption;* enters the Treasurer of nine different religious societies, all organized and carried on by her own herculean efforts; enters a Committee of One. All in the solitary person of Miss Angelina Martha Whortleburry, an angular-looking, sharp-featured, primly dressed, stiff-walking and sanctimoniously conducted female, of five and thirty years, with a voice as sharp as her elbows, and a nose which says, as plainly as a nose can say in rigid pokings-out and indexible turnings-up, that it shovels up and disdainfully tosses off its follower's trash, like a locomotive cow catcher, anything and everything she may encounter.

"Don't be alarmed, Madam," repeated Mr. Clayton, as he set out the broken stool.

"Oh, no—thank you—of course not," was the reply.

The visitress gathered up her silk robes and stood hesitatingly just within the door of the room—shivering a little, for the air of the place found its way through all her clothes and furs, as readily as it had made the carpenter's hands look purple.

"Of course not," she repeated, with an uneasy glance at the dead child and sick wife, while she covered with her splendidly embroidered cloak the paper she carried in her right hand. "Ahem! I am used to mistakes and rebuffs. As my distinguished friend, the Earl of Glenston, now in town, has wisely said, it requires a great deal of perseverance to do the work of the Lord. Do not start and color at the remark, sir! I am familiar with all sorts of sights and people. Nothing frightens *me*—nothing deters *me* from doing my duty. I am canvassing your district to-day in aid of the Timberloochoo Missions, but it seems ——"

She hesitated, with another shiver, while the cow-catcher nose leaped frantically around the room, from object to object, living and inanimate, as if conscious of being this time off the track.

"—— it seems," finished the Committee of One, "that I shall not be able to get a subscription *here!*"

The carpenter's hand rose in a direct line between the Committee's face and his own. It then moved like a circular index, indicating the dead child, the sick wife, the various objects of misery and destitution in that gloomy abode, while a half-stifled wail came up to the working man's lips in the single word:

"Madam!"

"Yes—there, there!" The Secretary hastened to say, a little tremulously, as if appalled by the bitterness of that one word's utterance or the attending glance. "I see—I see. You seem to need aid here rather than to give our society the usual subscription. Oh—oh—eh?? *There!*"

The last word was uttered in such a loud and excited tone as to awaken the wife.

"Well, madam, what now?"

The cow-catcher nose was lifted abruptly towards the ceiling, as if scooping up and throwing off a mountain of iniquity from the track of virtue.

"Yes! I smell rum!" was the announcement of the Committee, with an air of exalted triumph that would have suited Vidocq when arresting a government defaulter of millions. "Or gin! or brandy! most assuredly some kind of liquor: you can't deceive *me!* perhaps punch!"

The carpenter's wife had but lately bathed her aching head in some refuse alcohol kindly furnished by the painter in the front attic. Not to her benefit, perhaps; not in accordance with any physician's prescription, but because the painter, who had lately lost his own wife, wished to do something for the poor woman.

"Some sort of tippling, anyhow," finished the treasurer, as she returned to her pocket the five-pence she had dislodged. "Who hath redness of eyes? who is reduced to a morsel of bread? Verily, is it not he that tarrieth long at liquor? I should have made a donation but for that awful smell. I hate gin! I hate brandy! I hate idling and dram-drinking, as being the cardinal sins, and I won't lend my countenance to any such perversion of the Creator's gifts!"

The cow-catcher nose points a clear track to the street. Exit the committee, rattling and puffing under a full head of steam. Passes all sorts of stations, high and low, and goes on to an elegant *depot* in Madison avenue, where it vanishes up a high stoop and into a brown stone front, switched off for the day.

"And that's religion," said Mr. Clayton, with almost savage bitterness, after Miss Whortlebury had gone.

"No—no, Edward," came in a feeble voice of remonstrance from the bed of straw and rags behind him. "That's only a counterfeit—a base imposture in religion's name. The true religion is an entirely different thing. It is *mine!*"

The husband bowed his head to the rebuke. He knew it—knew with a gush of unutterable emotion that she had spoken the truth. And it was not a little thing for that poor sufferer to be able to refer him to *her* religion as the true one, after she had been his wife during twenty years of toil and suffering, amid the sin and privation of the world.

"I know it—I know it, Nelly," he replied. "There *is* a true religion, though the actions of some of its professed followers so terribly tempt us to doubt the fact. It is yours, darling—that religion of the heart which shows itself in deeds of love and goodness, instead of pompously proclaiming itself in the high places and the streets. You have shown me the true faith in being a faithful and affectionate wife—in blessing all around you to the best of your abilities—and in seeking only good ways and works ever since the hour when you first placed your fate in my keeping. I thank you, darling," and he threw himself beside her, pressing his lips to her pallid cheek. "I thank you now and forever!"

A glow of deep happiness overspread the face of Mrs. Clayton. It was a blessed thing—she felt it so—to have aroused such love and gratitude in the heart of that man in the relation she had borne him. It was a joy superior to all the pains racking her body—to all the anxieties preying upon her mind—to know that he deemed her the angel of his earthly lot. By her had the strong passions of his nature been rightly directed—by her had he been ennobled and redeemed. His superior intelligence, as in the finer emotions of the soul, she had aided his mind to grow out of the narrow and lowly sphere where it might have settled but for her aspiring guidance. She had raised his thoughts to those truths and enjoyments of which the truths and enjoyments of time are only the faint shadowings and promise. Like a true wife, she had added to those manly virtues and attractions for which she first gave him her heart—blessing him, and thereby finding a blessing—sowing that she would reap.

And thus kneeling there, in all his affections, that man enjoyed the blessing of existence to which all other blessings are secondary—the presence of a loving and devoted wife. He then and there knew that silks and satins, diamonds and jewels, could not form an equivalent for that presence. With a little money, a few comforts, how he could have laughed at the vulgar pleasures of the "best society," at its fashionable hollowness, its depraved selfishness, its heartless intrigues, and gilded crimes. How, with that faithful companion reposing in health and comfort on his breast—how he could have laughed at the "diamond weddings" of wealthy mercenaries, who place love behind their carriages as footman.

"It is strange," murmured the sick mother, "that Martha does not come back. She was only going to call on a lady in Greene street, who sent her word that she was in want of a waitress. Perhaps some accident has happened to her! Ever since our darling Alfred was stolen from us, carried away by the Gipsy King, and all trace of his existence forever lost, I have daily feared that some fearful calamity would overtake Martha, sooner or later. The enmity of the Earl of Glenston may reach us even here!"

"Let us hope not," rejoined the carpenter, as he rose to his feet, "It is sorrow enough for us to feel that we have somewhere in the wide world, a son who may have been reared as a wandering gipsy, as the son of the terrible Glenwood, or as a villian trained to crime, in some sphere or other. Oh, God! have mercy upon us, and be with us!"

"In any case," added Mrs. Clayton, "may Martha be dear in the sight of heaven! Only thorns appear in her path. Sadly, almost despairingly, she stands upon the threshold of womanhood—to her no realm of love, of radiance and of promise! She sees before her only an unloved and wasted life, consumed in trials and bitterness, as a flower destroyed ere its budding! I can hardly look upon her frail form and pale face without tears!"

The carpenter commenced pacing to and fro with a troubled air.

He and his wife had been speaking of the only daughter ever born unto them, a girl of sixteen years. She had lately been thrown out of employment by the burning of her employer's store, and had since been looking for a situation suitable to her years and strength. The father awaited her return a long time in anxious silence.

"Do you know the number of the house in Greene street where she was going?" he finally asked.

"No!"

His fears rapidly increased.

The fragment of tallow candle he had lighted soon burned entirely out—flickering feebly an instant, and leaving the room in darkness. His wife, much exhausted by her efforts in spearing had dropped into another nap.

"It is quite dark," he finally muttered. "I'll bury the child. Better to do it now than when she's awake."

He places the little body in a raisin-box, and carefully covers it from his sight. He takes the box under his arm, goes out through a dark and narrow passage, emerging into a back yard. There, beneath the sullen sky, he digs a hole in the ground with a fragment of spade without handle, and places the box therein. He weeps some while thus engaged, and several moans burst from his lips, but the task is soon done. Ere long he arises with his haggard face turned towards the heavens, as if he felt sure that the tender spirit was already safe with him who said, "Suffer little children to come unto me—of such is the kingdom of heaven!"

He goes back to his house thinking that the little body will return to dust as readily where he has left it as in any other place. After all—he consoles himself with the reflection—the babe sleeps well. No haggard faces and sunken eyes beyond the darkness through which it has passed—no terrible pilgrimage in a world of sin and sorrow; but a sweet and holy unfolding of its being in the peace and blessedness of heaven. He will not longer wring his hands, and sob in that despairing manner. He trusts that his faith may be quickened to see his lost darling, not as the handful of cold and pallid mortality he has just buried, but as a bright-eyed and rose-cheeked cherub among the groups rejoicing by the river of life.

And so the carpenter takes heart again, as he silently looks forward to the hour when he will meet his boy beyond the shadows and graves, in unfailing light, and be no more separated from him forever. But what, if the bonds of the sepulchre had not been broken, as a consolation for that man in that hour? What if he could not say, "Oh, death where is thy sting? Oh, grave, where is thy victory?" Where, but for the faith which looks beyond this life, would be the light in that gloom?

He steals noiselessly into the house, along the dark passage, and into the damp basement—now more desolate than ever to his sight. He glances uneasily at his wife, and feels thankful that she enjoys a temporary immunity from the agony with which he struggles. He holds his breath, choking down and stifling the almost irrepressible moans which arise from his heart, lest he shall make *her* a sharer in the great griefs of his soul. He peers out of the deep gloom into the street, with its glare of lamps flickering through the night—watching for his daughter and wondering why she does not come, and murmuring his fears that some evil has befallen her, and wringing his hands over the misery of his lot.

Oh! if he had some honest employment—and his fingers quiver in the air—though it commended his life-blood and coined his flesh into the mud of the gutters, how quickly would he prevent that desolate child from thus wandering, from exposing herself to the thousand perils of the metropolis in the attempt to earn her suffering parent's food!

"Poor Martha!" he again murmurs. "Where can she be all this while?"

Still she does not come!

And now the cold and stormy night was fairly set in. The tread of the pedestrians rang no more firmly on the sidewalks, but are short and mincing, the pavement being covered with sleet. And the wind freshens each moment, and wails around the corners and among the house-tops, as if a requiem for the poor girl who is waited for and comes not.

But there is an arrival at last!

A dark figure comes down the cellar-way, and the carpenter flies to the door. He opens it, and the figure comes noiselessly in—yet it is not Martha, and Clayton does not know who it is till a voice speaks:

"It's only me!"

It is the painter, who has been living in the front attic.

He enters slowly, though without noise, and leans feebly against the wall with the air of a man who is not only physically weak, but in despair.

"Ah! Gardner!" says the carpenter, and then he is silent.

He does not know what else to say! they are both so helpless and comfortless in their destitution, are these two men.

The cause of the painter's appearance from the street, instead of by the back stairs, soon furnishes them with material for conversation, however, and Clayton learns that his neighbor has been turned out of doors by the landlord. Fit visitor of such a scene does he appear—each sharp feature seeming to have been whetted by the hunger which has been preying upon him during four and twenty hours. Even his rags seem to hold his person in abhorrence, flaring up from his arms and legs at every movement in such a way as to disclose in several places the purple shivering flesh.

The business of this man is soon made known. He has only dropped in to see if fortune has in any degree smiled upon his neighbor—to see if the carpenter can give him a mouthful of food.

Clayton dies (as far as agony can kill him) in being compelled to reply:

"Nothing!"

The word causes the painter to fall backwards in such a weak and despairing sort of way, that the carpenter feels compelled to soften the blow by a few kind and encouraging words—to all of which the listener mutters his acknowledgements in an incoherent and impatient manner, and soon goes out without saying where he is going.

Sorrow enough for the carpenter without that! The painter is going to the North River!

His body will be found in the morning, so bruised by a pier-head, as to create a suspicion of foul play, whereupon the Mayor of the great metropolis will instantly offer a reward of five hundred or a thousand dollars for the murderers of a man whom *one dollar*, at the critical moment, would have reconciled with living!

Perhaps—for there was a warning wildness in the painter's last glance—perhaps it is of thoughts like these that Clayton is thinking. At any rate, in view of the miseries oppressing him, he hoarsely repeats the black problem which is suggested to him by all those terrible voices of death and death's family: "Where is it all to end?"

TO BE CONTINUED.

ADELINA PATTI. PRIMA DONNA. For Biographical Sketch see another column.

HOLIDAY GAMES.

As the holiday season is all but here, when amusements for the home circle will be loudly called for by the young and taken part in by the old, we make room for the following suggestions for keeping up the fun when it is in danger of flagging.

BLIND MAN IN THE CHAIR.

The blind having answered satisfactorily all questions respecting the number of fingers held up, or gone through any other ordeal that may be considered necessary to prove that he can see nothing, is turned loose in the centre of the circle. The players then change places rapidly, so as to put his memory at fault as to where each is seated. He then approaches the players, and without touching with his hand (that being strictly prohibited), seats himself gently on the extremity of the knees of the first person he meets with; and, without feeling the garments, or using any means but his own powers of guessing, assisted by the laughs around him, the rustling of stuffs, &c., must discover and pronounce the name of the person on whose knees he has seated himself. If he guesses correctly, the discovered player takes his place, receives the handkerchief, and proceeds in the same manner. If not, the players clap their hands to apprise him of his mistake, which having recognised, he proceeds to the knees of another. It is customary for the players, in order to throw as many difficulties in the way of the blind man, to resort to little stratagems; some cover their knees with the skirts of their neighbors' dresses; others put sofa cushions, &c., on their laps. Ladies in silk put woolen shawls, &c., over their dresses. In short, everybody tries to conceal his identity as much as possible. In case of a laudable tendency "to pity the Poor Blind," from the overwhelming difficulties of his position, or the wish to give all the players a turn, it is allowable, under certain circumstances, to give him a hint as to the name he ought to pronounce, and so put an end to his darkened career.

LOVE'S LABOR.

The gentleman has to make a declaration of love to a lady pointed out to him, or one he may fix upon of his own free will, in impromptu verse.

Example.

"If loving you be criminal, then
Where lives the wretch more justly doomed to die?
Slay me at once and further wrong prevent,
Since never my crime can I repent."

The lady may reply:—

"If you loves me as I loves you
No knife shall cut our loves in two."

SCRATCH CONCERT.

A noisy game. The players, having selected a "conductor," seat themselves. The conductor now declares each a musical instrument. Everybody imitates the instrument he is supposed to be, and tunes up. The leader hums an air, and all the instruments follow him.

THREE WORDS.

However out of the way they may be, the penitent is compelled to declare, on the spot and with some sort of connection, the use he would make of three words that may be named to him.

Example.

A lady asks of a gentleman—

"Can you employ in my service, three things that I am about to name to you?"

"Madam, I can."

"We shall see. What would you do with a 'locomotive,' a 'flower pot,' and a 'toothpick?'"

"I would leap astride the 'locomotive' that I might be carried to your side. I would wrap the 'flower-pot,' carefully bound with white-brown paper—for it should contain the lily presented to you as an emblem of my love. And—inadequate as would be the weapon—would no longer be at hand, I would make the 'toothpick' end my existence in case of your refusal to hear me."

THE PERFECT WOMAN.

The player commanded to manufacture a perfect woman, selects from each lady present some particular charm of mind or person possessed by her. All these admirable qualities being combined in one imaginary individual, the necessary pitch of female excellence is supposed to be attained.

THE HUNT.

One player is named "huntsman," and each must be called after the different parts of the dress or accoutrements of a sportsman. As many chairs as there are players, excluding the "huntsman," should be in two rows, back to back. All the players seat themselves; the "huntsman" walks round the sitters and calls out, say, 'Powder Flask!" That player gets up and holds on to the coat-skirts of the "huntsman," who calls out the others, one by one; each must take hold of the skirts of the player before him, and when all form part of this tail, the huntsman sets off running. Suddenly he calls "Bang!" and immediately sits down on one of the chairs, leaving the others to scramble to their seats. Whoever remains up pays forfeit and plays huntsman.

SHADOW GUESS

A sheet or white table-cloth is hung upon a screen, after the manner of preparations for a magic lantern. The blind man (as we may call him for the sake of distinction) is seated on a stool, low enough to prevent his shadow being thrown on the sheet before him. At some distance behind him a lamp is placed, all the other lights in the room being carefully extinguished. These preparations being concluded, all the members of the company form themselves into a sort of procession, and pass one after the other between the blind man (who is not allowed to turn his head round as much as an inch) and the table whereon the lamp is placed. This produces the effect intended. The light intercepted by the forms passing before it, throws on to the sheet a profile shadow of each. As these shadows pass before him in succession, the blind man is obliged to declare aloud the name of the person to whom he imagines the shadow to belong, the mistakes he falls into causing considerable amusement among the players. It is scarcely necessary to say, that each, in passing before the light, takes all possible pains to disguise his appearance, his height and his walk, so as to prevent recognition. Forfeits are paid by the players whose portraits may be recognized.

TELEGRAPH MESSAGE.

If ordered to send a message round the room by Electric Telegraph, you arrange all the players in a circle, alternately composed of ladies and gentlemen. You then whisper whatever you like in the ear of your next neighbor, who repeats it to the next, and so on round the circle, till the message comes back to you. You are then compelled to declare aloud if it has been faithfully transmitted; and, if not, in what particulars it has been altered. Some alteration may generally be relied on, from the number of speakers to whom the message has to be entrusted.

OUR PORTRAIT GALLERY.

ADELINA PATTI.

This popular *prima donna*, whose right name is Adele Juana Maria Patti, was born in Madrid, Spain, April 9th, 1843. Her mother, Mad. Barilli Patti, was the *prima donna of the Grand* Theatre at Madrid, and on the evening preceding the birth of Adele, Madam sung Norma, in which *role* she had a high reputation. Curiously enough, after the birth of Adele, Madam Patti almost lost her voice, and has always believed that it was given to the child. In 1844 the Patti family came to this country. Adele's first appearance before the public was at the age of nine years, when she made a tour in the British Provinces in company with Strakosch and Ole Bull, singing all the great pieces made popular by Jenny Lind, Sontag, Bosio and others. The infantile *prima donna* created the greatest enthusiasm, and her share of the proceeds alone amounted to $30,000, which was invested by her father in a country seat, which is now the summer residence of the family. On the 3d of March 1854, she made her *debut* at Paul Julien's Concert at City Assembly Rooms, New York. Soon after this she made a Concert tour with Gottschalk, the pianist, to the West Indies. In Havana, she sang in costume with her brother Barili, the duet in the "Barber of Seville," and so excited did the Habaneros become in attempting to recall her, that she became frightened and ran away, and nothing could induce her to re-appear. On the 24th of November, 1859, she re-appeared in New York at the Academy of Music, as Lucia de Lammermoor. She was brought out to save the season and the management from ruin, and she succeeded. She sang the mad scene from Lucia in such a superb way as to stir up the audience, which is unusually chary of applause, to the heartiest demonstrations of delight. She was thrice called before the curtain, and the stage was covered with the flowers which were thrown before her. She sailed for England early in 1862, and has appeared at the principal Opera Houses throughout the country with marked success. A very pretty circumstance is mentioned by *Galignani*, in connection with Patti's first appearances in Paris in "Somnambula:" A young American gentleman—an enthusiastic admirer, of course—had previously prepared an exquisite bouquet, in the centre of which he had pinned, on an *elegant staff*, a miniature American flag. On her appearance before the curtain at the end of the first act, among the many which fell at her feet, she quickly espied the bouquet with the national emblem of her country, picked up that one alone, and wore it the remainder of the evening. Returning to London, she was engaged at the Royal Italian Opera House, where her success was most unequivocal. About this time she was receiving the attention of a spring of the nobility named DeVille, who it is said perfectly idolized her. Everything was going along smoothly, and the happy pair were married. Everything was going along smoothly, and the happy couple were enjoying themselves in each other's society, when her father and brother-in-law stepped in, and by their interference broke the match off. Her voice is of rare and beautiful quality; clear, sympathetic, melodious, and flexible in a remarkable degree. Her intonation is as true as steel, and her pronunciation clear and unusually distinct. We know not in which to admire her the most, the brilliant Italian aria, the simple English song, or the arch and characteristic Spanish ballad. Of one and all we can only speak in terms of warm and hearty praise.

COURTSHIP IN TURKEY.—When parents in Turkey wish to find a wife for their son, some old woman is employed to make inquiries, and having discovered a lady with a fitting portion and beauty (*i. e.*, very fat, with a round, flat, pasty face), the mother of the intended bridegroom pays a morning call. The fair young "Kuanum" hands the coffee to the visitor, in doing which, as she has to walk the whole length of the room, it can be judged whether she is lame, or has any evident personal defect. If the matter proceeds, she has generally an opportunity given her of seeing the youth through the keyhole or the crack of a door, or even from her carriage on the public promenade; but the unfortunate man has no resource but to submit to the judgment of others, which is decidedly a risk in matters of taste. And we conclude, among ourselves, that the natural objection to "buying blindfolded" is, perhaps, one reason why so many men, even of the highest rank, marry their slaves and place them at the head of their establishments.

A POINTED JOKE.—A sportsman by touching his horse near the withers with his whip, taught him to kneel immediately. When shooting, and a dog came to point, he made the horse kneel, and persuaded those present that the horse was an excellent pointer. A gentleman having purchased the gelding, was riding the river with him, when, having touched his withers, he was true to the touch—down he dropped in the stream and soused his new master in the water. The latter in a great passion asked the former owner what he meant by selling him a horse that played him such a trick in the water? "Oh!" said the other, "you bought him as a pointer, and at the time he went on his knees he was pointing a salmon."

THE SAILOR'S WISH.—A sailor, who had been fighting and making a riot, was taken first to a watch-house, then before a justice, who, after severely reprimanding him, ordered him to find bail. "I have no bail," said Jack. "Then I'll commit you," said the justice. "You will!" said the sailor; "then the Lord send you the rope that stops the wind when the ship's at anchor." "What do you mean by that?" said the justice: "I insist on an explanation of that phrase." "Why," said Jack, "it's the hanging rope at the yard-arm."

PERSONAL.—A contemporary, having published a leader on "hogs," a rival paper in the village upraids him for obtruding his family matters upon the public.

A GOOD TRUMP.—Love is the ace of hearts, and it trumps the world's kings, queens, knaves, diamonds, and all the rest of the pack.

THEATRICAL RECORD.

Movements, Business, and Incidents of the Theatrical, Circus, Musical and Minstrel Profession.

Clipper Post Office.

TAKE NOTICE.—A stamped envelope, with address, must be enclosed for each and every letter sent for.

Geo. A. Archer, Mast. F. Robinson, W. P. Spaulding, (2) W. J. Jacobs, W. W. Newcomb, 2) J. B. Carr, Dick Melville, M. Ainsley Scott, (2) E. H. Brink, Otis H. Carter, (2), Eddie Peath, Mast. C. F. Dare, Frank Lum, F. Heinrich, C. E. Churchill, A. Tinnock, Fred. A. Jones, Al. Moe, Music, (2), John G. Magle, J. Heneage Carter, Sig. Gerard, (2), Jno. J. Bung, H. J. Sargent, A. Aymar, Nat Gayton, J. H. Mulligan, Sig. Feranis, Burrowes & Burdeau Jno. Warner, Charley Davis, Alice Lawler, Lou Bennett, Lotta, Elizabeth Thompson Mellie Sanderson, Mrs. E. F. Read, Madame Macarte,

Jas. Ward, L. Gaylord, R. B. Vernon, Adolph Gonzales, Jno. R. Lane, Virgil O. Gardello, Chas. Parker. W. H. Burdeau, E. T. Stetson, Willis Cobb, (2), C. F. Bailey, Wm. R Dorr, E. P. Kendall, C. W. Kidder, H. Lindley, Allyne & Edwards, D. C. La Rue, J. P. Stoner, Jas. Mc Culion, Geo. J. Maddox, W. W. Wayne, N. C. Forrester. W. W. Fowler, Martin Griffin, A. Cullin, Orton Bros., Geo. Lavender, John Birch, Gus Howard, (2), Mr. Carter. Frank Tibbs, Eliza Newton, Lillie Brandon, Blanche Chapman, Mrs. E. T. Stetson, Alice A. Harrison, Lottie Howland, Seleni Warner, Maggie Gourlay,

Jas. Mass, Thos. Simpson, Fred. Searl, M. L Townsend, Root. Johnson, Wm. Foote, Jr., Joe Tinkham, Fayette Welsh, J. G. Saville, W. P Sheldon, Geo. W. Sherman, McKee Rankin, Frank Swirt, Lew Hallett, S. H. Verney. Sig. Gibbonnoise, Jerry Donovan, Ned West, S. S. Sanford, Gus De Young, R S. Meldrum, (2), A. H. Castle, Geo. A Archer, Geo. Hutchinson, W. S. Mace, A Lavender, Jno. Collins, W. H. Gaylord, L. M. W. Steere. Wm. Sparks. Julia Vincent, Florence Webster, Lou. Boshell, Addie Granell, (4), Mad. De Lemoine, Jenny Bryant, Emily R. Swander, Emma Marsh.

Notice.

ADVERTISERS must hand in their favors before 6 o'clock on Monday evening, in order to have them appear in that week's issue.

City Summary.

MONDAY, Dec. 23, '67.

IN THE COMICAL language of a funny poet, we "wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, a pocket full of money and a cellar full of beer," to say nothing of other luxuries belonging to the festive season on which we are about entering. We like Christmas; we have *always* liked Christmas from the time when we first hung up our little stocking in the chimney corner, until now when we understand the art and mystery which enable Kris Kringle to reward so many hundreds of thousands of good little boys and girls in a single night. Well do we remember Christmas Eve in the olden time, when we hurriedly got through with a brief supper, went at our "Now I lay me" with railroad speed, and rushed into bed as quickly as possible, so that Kris Kringle should not be kept waiting for our stocking. All through the night we slept with only one eye shut, wondering if the old fellar had seen our stocking yet; whether he had enough toys and things to go round; whether he had any knowledge of our having played "hookey," tied tin pans to old Jones' dog's tail, and put Cayenne pepper in the big stove at our school, etc. We hoped that kind Old Santa Claus was ignorant of all these little wrongs, and took note of nothing else but the good deeds performed. We remember very well with what glee we bounced out of bed on Christmas morning, made a dash at our stocking, dived into its recesses, and brought forth a potato, a red herring, and other vegetable productions. *Wasn't* we mad, though? And didn't we send the potatoes and things at Dad Guthrie's old cook? Dear knows, it was a trying Christmas for us. Our parents said that Santa Claus served us in that way because we had been a very bad, mischievous boy. We never felt the same towards Santa Claus after that, although we admit that we shall never let our grudge against the old chap go so far as to do him an injury, or interfere with his professional duties. We used to have some rare old fun at Christmas time in years gone by, when "Mummer Sport" was in vogue. Do you know what "Mummer Sport" is? Some of our veteran readers do, no doubt. Well, in times past, the rising generation were not all men, as at the present day; neither was money so easily comfortable as now; and for that, among other reasons, boys used to organize themselves into associations of "Mummers," or strolling players, going about from house to house during the holiday season, and speaking pieces. A well-organized *corps of* Mummers had its captain, or manager, who directed the movements of the party, made the opening address, etc. The costumes of these incipient players were varied only in so far as an extra piece of ribbon might be brought in to assist. The attire of the Mummers consisted in most cases in their shirts being worn outside their pants, with a sash around the waist, and paper around the hat, with little bits of fancy paper or ribbons to give a finish to the costume. Each boy also wore a false face, intended to represent the face of the character delineated. They would start out early in the evening, and stop at the various dwelling houses along their route. The captain would give a loud knock or ring at the front door, which would bring out some member of the family:

Captain.—Want any Mummer sport to-night?

Old Lady.—No, git out of here, yer dirty wagabones; you better be in yer beds, 'stid of molesting peaceable people.

Captain.—Oh, it's Christmas times, aunty; don't be so hard; shan't we give you a little sport?

Old Lady.—No! drat yer brazen faces, I don't want none of yer Mummer sport. If yer don't go way, I'll scald every one of yer.

The Mummers would frequently meet with such rebuff; but they expected it, they took the fat and the lean just as it came along. Now and then they would come across a clever family, and then they were all right.

Captain—(*Ha!, ta!, tal.*)

Person of the House—Well, what's wantin'?

Captain—Any Mummer sport to-night?

Person of the House—Oh, its you Mummers, is it? How many is there of you?

Captain—Only twelve in our party. We'll give you some good sport if you'll let us in.

Person of the House—Well, wipe your feet and come in, but don't let any of them boys in.

But the followers of the Mummers were hard to keep out and by the time the sport began there was usually a "large and appreciative audience present," including the Person of the House and the entire family. Order having been restored, and the doors and windows bolted to keep out intruders, the sports of the evening were commenced by the Captain, as follows:—

Captain of the Mummers.

Here am I, the Captain of this noble crew,
Gentlemen and ladies, I'll relate it unto you;
That you have been so kind to open your doors and let us in,
We'll do our best your favor for to win.
Whether we rise or we fall, we fall,
We'll do our endeavors to please you all;
So room, room, give us room to rhyme,
And show our activity in Christmas time.
If you don't believe in what I say,
Enter in Oliver Cromwell, and clear the way.

This closed the Captain's address, and immediately came forward Oliver, with false face, long nose, and a general make up to resemble any one else but the original Cromwell. And this is what he said:—

Oliver Cromwell.

Here comes I, old Oliver Cromwell, with my long copper nose,
I've conquered many nations, as you may all suppose;
I've made the French for to tremble, and the Spanish for to quake,
I've beat the jolly Dutchman till his head began to ache, etc, etc.

Cooney Cracker.

Here comes I, old Cooney Cracker,
All I want's a chaw tobacker.

Belzebub.

Here comes I, old Belzebub,
On my shoulder I carry my club,
In my hand a dripping pan,
Don't you think I'm a jolly old man?

George Washington.

Here am I, George Washington,
From Virginny I have come, etc.

Devilty Dout.

Here comes I, little Devilty Dout,
You may kick me in or kick me out;
Money I want and money I crave.
If you don't give me some money I'll send yer all to the grave;
Chop yer up as fine as flies,
And give yer to the devil to make mince pies,
Mince pies hot and mince pies cold,
Mince pies in the pot nine days old.

There were a few other characters in the cast, but we can neither remember their names, or their speeches. At the close of this Mummer sport, the Person of the House would give the Mummers a quarter or half a dollar, just as their circumstances or inclinations would warrant, and then this motley crew would take their departure, and go through the same performance elsewhere.

When the Mummers were well organized they would perform a little sketch called

ST. GEORGE AND THE DRAGON.

Enter Father Christmas.

Here come I, Old Father Christmas—
Welcome, or welcome not,
I hope Old Father Christmas
Will never be forgot.
I am not come here to laugh or jeer,
But for a pocketfull of money, and a skinfull of beer.
If you will not believe what I do say,
Come in, the King of Egypt—clear the way.

Enter the King of Egypt.

Here I, the King of Egypt, boldly do appear,
St. George, St. George, walk in, my only son and heir;
Walk in, my son, St. George, and boldly act thy part,
That all the people here may see thy wondrous art.

Enter St. George.

Here comes I, St. George; from Britain did I spring.
I'll fight the dragon bold, my wonders to begin,
I'll clip his wings, he shall not fly;
I'll cut him down, or else I die.

Enter the Dragon.

Who's he that seeks the Dragon's blood,
And calls so angry and so loud?
That English dog, will he before me stand?
I'll cut him down with my courageous hand;
With my long teeth and scurvy jaw,
Of such I'd break up half a score,
And stay my stomach till I'd more.

[*St. George and the Dragon fight desperately. The former is killed.*]

Father Christmas—
Is there a doctor to be found
All ready, near at hand,
To cure a deadly wound,
And make the champion stand?

Enter Doctor.

Oh, yes, there is a doctor to be found,
All ready near at hand,
To cure a deep and deadly wound,
And make the champion stand.

Father Christmas—
What can you cure?

Doctor—
All sorts of diseases,
Whatever you pleases;
The phthisic, the palsy, and the gout,
If the Devil's in I'll blow him out.

Father Christmas—
What is your fee?

Doctor—
Fifteen pounds is my fee,
The money to lay down;
But, as 'tis such a rogue as thee,
I'll cure him for ten pound.
I carry a bottle of alicampane—
That wondrous cures performs—
Three drops on the end of my sword,
Rise up, champion, and fight again.

[*The Doctor performs his cure; the fight is renewed, and the Dragon killed.*]

Mummer sport created a good deal of merriment in those days, and made up, in a humble way, for the great lack of theatres and such like places of public resort, for there were scarcely as many theatres in the whole country then as are to be seen now in our own city. But enough about Christmas—may everybody enjoy the day, and may managers of our amusement resorts find their Christmas boxes loaded with paying patrons.....Beecher's latest novelty, "Norwood," didn't do any better as a play than as a story. Had the reverend gentleman consulted us we could have given him some ideas that would have made "Norwood" interesting. Even "Our Jim" is a better hand at getting up situations than Brother Beecher, as the following skeleton of a Christmas dramatic story he is now working on will attest:—

MOTT HAVEN;
OR, THE ACTOR'S REVENGE.
A Dramatic Novelty for Christmas:
BY "OUR JIM."

CHAP. I.

Mott Haven was an actor—we are *all* actors, and the world's a stage.

But we will not moralise—we will only state that Mott Haven had not lived in vain:

He loved and was loved.
He loved a blue-eyed beauty named Charlotte Town.
He had a rival:
This rival's name was Morris Ania.

CHAP. II.

When Morris Ania saw that Charlotte Town responded not unto his vows of love, but loved another, he was wroth.

When he revolved it in his mind he was wrather.

Such also is human nature.

And Morris Ania was human, though love hath no nature.

He bought a six-barreled revolver and a small bottle of laudanum.

He called on Charlotte Town.

He asked her would she have him.

"Never," was the quick reply.

"Then," said he, "we both must die.

"This pistol is for you." He shot her through the calf, which was false, and she only swooned.

He then from out his pocket took the bottle of laudanum, saying:—

"*I will take this to-morrow!*"

He departed just as Mott Haven came rushing in.

What a sight met his gaze!

Before him lay a discharged pistol by the side of his adored Charlotte Town, from whose ghastly wound issued streams of sawdust.

He raised her in his arms.

She told him all!!

He exclaimed—"I know his secret I will be revenged!"

CHAP. III.

We believe we forgot to mention that Morris Ania was an actor;

Also, that we are *all* actors;

And that the world's a stage.

Yes, we did mention that the world's a stage;

But let it pass—it reads well;

Moreover it is a good thing;

And it is original.

CHAP. IV.

The reader must imagine himself in a theatre.

He *is*, in fact, for the world is one vast stage.

But we will not moralise.

The reader will see that the play is nearly ended. Yes, the great Drama of Life is nearly ended with us all.

But let that pass, for Christmas is a season of festivities.

On the stage we see two men.

Those men are Morris Ania and Mott Haven.

See how vindictively they glare upon each other.

And soon are in a mortal combat give engaged.

It is in their parts to fight or they would have been parted.

But we will not moralise.

Mott Haven's valor pleased the multitude, as did Morris Ania's fierce moustache:

For he traveled on that hirsute appendage.

And still they struggle, still fight they on.

At last worn out by conflicting emotions, Mott Haven seizes Morris Ania by his stalwart moustache!

IT COMES OFF!

Mott Haven says to the audience:

"He has deceived you thus for years; you see 'tis false."

The audience hiss Morris Ania off the stage, and Mott Haven, panting with joy, exclaims:

"*I am revenged!*"

Mott Haven shortly after married the lovely Charlotte Town, and was blessed with a numerous progeny.

Morris Ania died an ignominious death on the scaffold, just as the bright sun ushered in a

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

At the various places of amusement, attractive programmes have been prepared for the Christmas holidays, performances being announced for afternoon as well as evening, thus giving an opportunity for parents and children to spend a portion of the day in innocent amusement abroad, as well as enjoying those domestic interchanges of the courtesies of the season around the fireside at home. Those who desire to get comfortable seats in our theatres and halls on Christmas night must be early at the ticket office, or their pathway will not be one of ease.

A TRIBUTE TO A DECEASED FRIEND AND BROTHER ACTOR.

BY C. FOSTER.

Joyous souls in blissful realms above
Ope' wide your arms in the embrace of Love;
Heartily welcome a weary traveler Home,
No more on earth is he destined to roam;
Bright be your lamps to light him on the way
Bright through the darkened vale to endless day.
Inactive Clay yields up a spirit true;
Dissolved, it seeks to rest in peace with you;
Grief-struck mortal must to immortality resign,
Much loved, much honored, dear old friend of mine,
Assured by faith, which holy writ makes plain,
Now sleeps in Heaven, *a true and honest man.*

"A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM" is a novelty in the middle of winter, yet we are having it every night at the Olympic Theatre, in despite of the very cold and stormy weather out of doors. Rosa Cooke, a charming little actress and pleasing vocalist, appeared last week as Oberon and made a favorable impression. She is a better actress than Miss Stockton, and her singing pleases equally as well as did that lady's. In addition to the regular songs in this play she sang "Lo! Hear the Gentle Lark," made popular here years ago by Annie Milner with the Cooper English Opera Troupe. Miss Cooke has a very pleasing address, is improving in her acting and sings with considerable taste and feeling. She has already made her mark in the profession and gives promise of future excellence. "A Midsummer Night's Dream" will be withdrawn shortly for other novelties.

"UNDER THE GASLIGHT" having been so favorably received at the Worrell Sisters' Theatre by the public, the management announce its representation for some time to come. Irene Worrell resumed the *role* of Laura on the 16th, and continued to appear throughout the week. In this character Irene displays more talent than any other we have ever seen her perform, and she has won a host of admirers. In the street scene between C. T. Parsloe, Jr., and J. K. Mortimer, these two worthies indulge in considerable gagging, a portion of which might judiciously be omitted. In the pier scene Jennie Worrell introduces a clog dance, which, being a specialty with her, takes well. The attendance at this theatre is as good as at any in town.

"YE LEGEND OF YE GRAND QUEEN BESS" has been very favorably received at the Fifth Avenue Opera House the past week, and continues the attraction for the current week. The great fault of this burlesque is, it was written by an Englishman totally unacquainted with the wants of an American audience in that line, and not being up to the times and acquainted with the local topics of the day, has failed to localize it and introduce many of the sensations of the day which such a burlesque is just the vehicle for bringing before the public. It is an exceedingly well constructed burlesque, and in England would make a hit, but being without what we have mentioned, it has not achieved the success it would otherwise have done. Leffingwell's part of Queen Bess is about twenty-five 'lengths' too long, and needs curtailing. Mrs. Howard Watkins has withdrawn from this theatre and gone South. Her *role* of Earl of Essex is played by Blanche Chapman.

FOR THE HOLIDAYS Tony Pastor has prepared for his patrons a spectacular burlesque on the "Arabian Knights" entitled "The Female Forty Thieves," also a Christmas pantomime to be produced on the 30th inst., entitled "There was an Old Woman who Lived in a Shoe," together with other novelties. On Christmas day a *matinee* will be given, introducing all the company in a programme suitable for the young and the old.

OLE BULL returned to this city from Europe last week after an absence of ten years.

MAGGIE MITCHELL does not go to California as has been extensively reported and advertised. She will play an engagement at the Olympic Theatre during the month of February.

THE BILL BOARDS put up around the lamp posts in front of all the different places of amusement on Broadway were removed last week by order of the authorities.

THE EIGHTH AVENUE OPERA HOUSE was opened on the 14th inst., with M. C. Campbell as manager and the following company:—T. McNally, Harry Wilson, Julia Melville, Ed Eddy, Dick Berthelon, Leonora Creed, Mlle Sengaw, Johnny Traynor, J. W. Clark, Japanese Tommy, Geo. Moore, Johnny Morton, Billy Thompson, Harry Haviland.

BANVARD'S MUSEUM was reopened on the 21st inst., by Mr. Banvard, with the drama of "Our Mutual Friend." John Albaugh, H. B. Phillips, M. C. Daly, D. Myron, (first appearance in this city), Augusta Linne, (first appearance in this city), Lillie Eldridge, Mrs. Eldridge, Miss Proudfoot and others were in the cast

DAN BRYANT returned from California on the 21st inst.

KELLY AND LEON'S MINSTRELS renewed their acquaintence with the lovers of negro minstrelsy, at their hall, on the 17th inst., with a few changes in the company, G. W. H. Griffin taking Kelly's position of interlocutor, Rollin Howard doing Leon's burlesque *prima donna* business, and George Percival as ballad-ist. Dave Reed was also added to the forces. The hall was comfortably filled by a very enthusiastic audience, who testified their approbation by long and frequent applause. When the curtain ascended, discovering the company, the reception was most enthusiastic, and nearly every act in the programme received from two to three *encores*. Mr. Griffin is an old favorite, and was well received In his business he has few equals. Mr. Percival is possessed of an exceedingly sweet voice, and made a favorable impression by singing "Norah O'Neil," but the biggest reception that any performer has met with on Broadway in the minstrel business for a long time was accorded Dave Reed. When he appeared such a storm of applause as greeted him is very seldom heard in a minstrel hall. He gave the song and dance of "I Reckon I'm in Luck," which was *encored* three times. Later in the evening he appeared in his bone solo in imitation of the snare drum, and this was *encored* three times, and he had to give "Sally Come Up" before the audience was satisfied. He made a big hit, and deservedly so, for he is one of the best song and dance performers on the stage. The same reception awaited him every night Neise Seymour and Sam Price were very funny in their respective acts and on the ends, and pleased the audience. Hogan and Hughes and George and Willie Guy did a very good clog dance, which was heartily applauded. The performance throughout was excellent, and the hall was well attended all the week.

THE "BLACK CROOK" drama is fast drawing to a close in this city, as the last performance will take place on or about Wednesday, January 1st. As it will take some time to remove all the "fixins" from the theatre and ship them to Boston, and get in order the scenery, etc., for the new piece, Niblo's Garden will be closed for about two weeks, in order to make the necessary alterations and give proper rehearsals so that when it is produced, which will be about January 15th, everything shall work well, without hitch or hindrance. We have had several glimpses of some of the scenes, and models of others, and can assure the readers of the CLIPPER that it will, for scenic effect, surpass anything ever before seen in this country. As gorgeous as is the transformation scene in the "Crook," the one that is being gotten up now would, if it were possible, make all its predecessors blush. There will be in one scene over ninety *ballet* girls; another scene is made entirely of glass. As we could fill a column describing the different scenes, we will postpone any further remarks for the present. Mlle Schlxe, late of the "Devil's Auction" *ballet*, appeared at this house on the 16th in a Hungarian dance, and received a hearty greeting.

NOT THE RIGHT OCEANA.—On Sunday evening, the 15th inst., the police arrested, in an oyster saloon in Mercer street, near Spring, a lady who gave her name as Oceana Judah. The policeman stated that he arrested her in the saloon whither she had followed a young man, and during a quarrel had threatened his life with a poinard. While being conveyed to the station house she was attacked with what appeared to be hysterical fits, which continued to such an extent that the police thought it advisable to send her to Bellevue Hospital. One of the physicians at once discovered that she had been indulging in excessive potations and that the hysterics were merely assumed. She thereupon launched out in a torrent of ravings from Shakespeare and other playwrights. She was dressed as for a masked ball. She said she was 21 years of age, a native of Cuba, an actress by profession, and resided at Powers' Hotel. At a hearing the next day the judge sent her up to the island for a short time. That the profession may not confound this party with the original Oceana who is at present in Omaha, N. T., we would state that the one arrested is professionally known as Ella Fontaine, and danced in the Bowery at the Old Stadt Theatre two seasons ago for Montpelier.

THE THEATRE COMIQUE, under the management of Messrs. Sharpley, Cotton and White, is one of the favorite places of amusement in this city, and is attended nightly by appreciative audiences. This week the managers produce a Christmas pantomime entitled "Tom Tally Ho," which is produced under the direction of C. H. Adams, who is to make his first appearance in this country this evening as the clown. In addition to the pantomime, a full minstrel performance will be given by Sharpley and Cotton's Minstrels; Charley White, Carleton, and the balance of the company will appear in various acts.

THE DIFFERENT MANAGERS of the places of amusement in this city have made extra preparations for the holidays, and the San Francisco Minstrels have prepared a programme which must suit their patrons, as it contains some of the sweetest and most popular ballads of the day, together with a host of comic and sentimental acts, in which Billy Birch, Charley Backus, and W. H. Bernard will play the most prominent parts. If you want to enjoy one of the best minstrel entertainments ever seen in this city, and be convulsed with laughter from the rising to the fall of the curtain, pay the San Francisco Minstrels a visit, and you will be sure to go a second time.

THE NEW YORK CIRCUS produces this evening for the holidays the pantomime of "The Miser of Bawdad," with new costumes, tricks and transformations. In addition to the regular company who appear in the cast, others have been specially engaged, among whom will be found Charley Sherwood, Vico Farrand and Julia Melville. A *corps de ballet* has also been engaged. The New York Circus will give an afternoon as well as an evening performance every day this week, and will, no doubt, be largely attended by the juveniles, particularly in the afternoon.

IRENE WORRELL has published a card denying the report that she was married a few days ago. She says:—"I am not married, and have no intention of so doing. My only desire is to engage myself to the many kind friends who nightly visit our cheerful little theatre."

SOHLEE ENJOINED FROM DANCING IN THE "BLACK CROOK."—On the fourth page of this week's issue will be found particulars of the injunction served upon Mlle Sohlee by Leffingwell and Co's. The case was decided in the Superior Court on the 21st inst. The judge ordered that the defendants' application be and the same is hereby denied, with $10 costs, with leave to renew the motion to dissolve upon further papers showing non-payment to defendant Sohlee of the stipulated salary, or such conduct on the part of the plaintiffs as would render it improper or, in the judgment of the Court, unadvisable that she should be prevented from earning her livelihood by the practice of her art in the employment of persons other than plaintiffs, and on the payment of said $10. It is further ordered that the *vacatur* of the modification heretofore made by the Court take effect from the service of a copy of this order on the defendants from and after the conclusion of the afternoon performance on the 21st instant.

DAN BRYANT returned from the Pacific Slope with $12,000 profits of his engagements in San Francisco and Sacramento. He will play an engagement in Chicago, New Orleans and Mobile during the winter.

LAWRENCE BARRETT will shortly return from Europe, when he will play a short engagement at the Broadway Theatre, and proceed directly to California, accompanied by Harry Wall.

HARRY WALL'S address will be at Low-li and Simmons' Agency, 609 Broadway, until his departure for California.

THE RICHINGS' OPERA TROUPE commence a season of English opera at the Academy of Music in this city on the 30th, opening in "Crown Diamonds." The company consists of the old favorites, as follows—Caroline Richings, Castle, Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. Seguin, Wylie, Bernard, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Arnold, and W. G. Deiderich leader of Orchestra. Aug. Pennoyer is business manager.

J. S. BERRY has left Charley Shay's Quincuplexal troupe, and is sojourning *pro tem* at 75 Allen street, in this city.

MANAGER BUTLER, of the American Theatre, offers his patrons for the current week the trick pantomime of the "Red Demon," in which the entire company will appear. In addition to the pantomime, which will be presented every evening this week, besides on Christmas afternoon, the variety company will also appear in some of their specialties.

MESSRS. LOWELL AND SIMMONDS, having purchased from Harry Wall all his interest in the dramatic agency, have established themselves, and opened an office at 609 Broadway, a few doors below Houston street, which they have fitted up in very handsome style, and are prepared to attend to all business for managers and professionals requiring the services of a dramatic agency. Their cards will be found in our advertising columns.

Dramatic.

A TRIPLE ACROSTIC.

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER,

BY URIAH QUILP.

Sour Mawworm looks with jaundiced eye
Upon this vale sublunary,
Converts it to a place of moaning,
Contends life should be passed in groaning—
Ever in play, or dance, or revel,
Smelleth perdition and the devil.
Surely, friend Mawworm, you forget
Tho' happy, you ne'er knew it yet—
Of ta the ark was borne along,
Swelled high the festive dance and song;
'en David, saith the Holy Word,
Leaped for joy before the Lord.
Would warriors earn a death'less name?
Yon scene of carnage speaks their fame;
No blood our player's victories bestain—
Contented o'er the realms of mind to reign.
How oft we see dull care is driven away
E'en by witnessing a merry play!
Earth holds no surer cure for grief,
Nor one that speedier gives relief;
Young Mirth's a king whom all obey,
And none dispute, in theatres, his sway;
Not only mirth our players impart—
Doth not e'en a coward's heart
Fire at the deeds of daring Tell,
Or his, who loved the Roman commons well?
Lo! are these useless aims, friend Mawworm, pray?
Let your heart speak—it doth, it sayeth "nay!"
Excuse the faults, not spirit of my rhyme:
The Art will live, donot not, till farthest time,
That's graced by Shakespeare's genius sublime!

EDDY'S second meeting at the Academy, Albany, N. Y., was a greater success than the first. He brought out on the 16th, and the two succeeding nights, "The Police Spy," in which he was well sustained by the company. On the 19th "Jack Cade" was repeated, and the farce of the "Lottery Ticket," with Sam Ryan as Wommwood. On the 20th, for the benefit of Mr. Eddy, "Rip Van Winkle" was presented. On the 21st, "Pizarro" and "Nick of the Woods," were presented. Our correspondent says:—"Mr. Eddy, in the 'Police Spy,' gave an excellent rendition of that character, and in this he makes his points more by the quiet than boisterous. His success has been remarkable. The stock company give the 'Hidden Hand' at the *matinee* on the 21st; 'Under the Gaslight,' is announced for the 23d."

THE CURRAN AND WRIGHT "BLACK CROOK" COMPANY opened in Watkins, N. Y., Dec. 16th, for one week. They go next to Pen Yan, N. Y., opening on the 23d for six nights. Watkins is a good show town, with a passably good hall, and showmen will find the Tallbrook House a good hotel.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN" was played at the Adelphi Theatre, Nashville, Tenn., on the 14th inst., to $1,680, said to be more money than ever before taken in that establishment for one performance.

D. C. FLINT, with a dramatic company, was at Lafayette, Ind., last week. The "Stranger" was played on the 17th, with D. C. Flint as the Count; F. J. Frayne as the Baron, and Elizabeth Gale as Mrs Haller.

J. HOLMES GROVER, the young Irish comedian, has the month of January open only. Managers wishing to secure him for two or three weeks during that month, can do so. He commences his Salt Lake tour the first week in February.

EMILIE MELVILLE has concluded a two weeks' engagement at the Opera House, Pittsburgh, Pa. She is followed on the 23d by Marietta Ravel, in the "French Spy."

MRS. LANDER and company were at the Academy of Music, Pittsburgh, Pa., last week. She appeared as Elizabeth, Mary Stuart and Lady Macbeth.

A SCENIC ARTIST advertises in this issue of the CLIPPER for a situation.

D. OAKLEY, a representative of first old men, can be engaged. See advertisement

EDWIN FORREST closed the first five nights of his present engagement of ten performances at the National Theatre, Washington, D. C., on the 13th inst., receiving a benefit and appearing in his great specialty, the "Gladiator," supported by Messrs. Barton Hill, Sheridan, Allen, Bland, Parkhurst, Foster, James, Kilbourne, Miss Lillie and Blanche Grey. On the 14th inst., "Tom and Jerry, or Life in London," and the two act comic play, entitled "The Jacobite," were produced. Mr. Forrest appeared on the 16th as King Lear, with the following distribution:—Edgar, Barton Hill; Edmund, W. E. Sheridan; Oswald, E. Lamb; Cornwall, F. Foster; Gloster, Humphrey Bland; Kent, Leslie Allen; Cordelia, Miss Lillie; Goneril, Annie Waite and Regan, Blanche Grey. Our correspondent, "Novice," says:—"Mr. Forrest gave his rendition of King Lear in his usually grand and impressive manner, and the performance passed off splendidly. Generals Grant, Sherman, Steadman and other distinguished characters were present. The Edmund of Mr. Sheridan was a very correct rendition, but the Edgar of Barton Hill was not exactly up to its requirements. *Apropos* of this, the critic of one of our papers here finds considerable fault with Mr. Forrest for dragging around with him for supports people who cannot play the parts assigned them half as well as they could be represented by the stock actors of the companies engaged at the theatre in which he plays, and cites the names of Wm. E. Sheridan and Blanche Grey as being better able to play the various parts, and with much more satisfaction than either Miss Lillie or Barton Hill, and after eulogizing the company, suggests that the management play the stock for a few weeks, as an experiment, and full houses would be warranted. On the 17th 'Metamora' was given, and on the following evening (18th) 'Richard Third' was performed, with Mr. Forrest in the title *role*, Barton Hill as Richmond, Miss Lillie as Lady Anne, Annie Waite as Queen Elizabeth, and Mr. Vandenhoff as Buckingham. 'Damon and Pythias' was presented on the 19th inst., and for this evening (20th) Mr. Forrest's last night, 'Hamlet' is announced. The popular comedian, John E. Owens, commences an engagement at this theatre on the 23d inst. The spectacular drama, the 'Lovely Forty Thieves,' is in preparation, and is announced for production on Christmas afternoon. Considerable excitement was caused at the National Theatre on the evening of the 17th, by the presence of colored men in the parquet circle. It appears that during the day two colored men purchased parquet circle seats, the agent, when selling them, little thinking that they were purchasing them for themselves In the evening they were erroneously admitted and took seats in the parquet. The cry of 'Nigger in the pit!' was speedily raised, and the officers of the house informed them that they were in the wrong part of the theatre. They replied they had paid for the seats they were occupying, and did not intend to leave them Thinking better of the matter, however, they agreed to leave (after witnessing three acts) if their money would be refunded, which was granted them, and the matter settled.....The La Grange and Brignoli Italian Opera Troupe, under the management of Max Strakosch, announce a season of four nights at Wall's Opera House, commencing on the 23d inst. The theatre has been refurnished for the occasion, comfortable orchestra chairs taking the place of cushioned benches, which were stiff and uncomfortable. 'Il Trovatore,' 'Norma,' 'La Favorita' and 'Don Giovanni' are the operas to be given."

THEATRICALS IN PHILADELPHIA have been a little queer since our last, for at this festive season everything else is forgotten in the preparations making for a proper observance of Christmas During the past week the fancy stores, jewelry stores, toy emporiums, book establishments, photographic saloons, etc., have been crowded with shoppers and purchasers, while the theatres have exhibited anything but a healthy appearance. Christmas is the great holiday among the Quakers. Gifts are all the rage. Everybody expects to give, if not receive, a "Christmas box." It is not surprising, therefore, that the money which erstwhile profited the theatres, now goes to enrich the tradesmen..... At the Chestnut Street Theatre, Janauschek, the German actress, made her *debut* in Philadelphia on the 16th, but she has not been favored with large audiences. Her country people turned out fairly, but not in sufficient numbers to fill the house. Her acting is admired by those who understand the language, but by the "uneducated" portion of the community she is not appreciated. Janauschek closed her brief engagement on the 21st. This week the showy spectacle of "Cendrillon" is put up for a holiday attraction; it will probably do very well.....John Brougham terminated his very successful engagement at the Walnut on the 21st. The "Lottery of Life" gave him a chance to make a hit, and he has no doubt drawn a big prize as the result of investing in that strange and incomprehensible "Irish stew." You that have tears to shed, prepare to shed them now: Lucille Western was to have followed John Brougham, opening on the 23d inst., and as "East Lynne" is one of the lady's strong points, she will give us her impersonation of Lady Isabel and Madame Vine. Lucille is a good card, and profitable alike to herself and managers.....The Lagrange-Brignoli Opera Troupe have had possession of the Academy for the past week; aside from delays, and long waits, and the "peculiarities" of Brignoli, the operas were well given, and duly appreciated by good audiences. The performances did not commence on time, and Brignoli kept the stage waiting when they did commence; the stamping and cat calls caused thereby did not sound very aristocratic; such things reminded us of "the palmy days of the Bowery." Brignoli sang well, but would not always obey an *encore*, and he did not increase the number of his friends in consequence. There must be better management of this troupe, or it will come to grief. This Italian troupe are succeeded this week by the sentimental Hanlons and their grand combination. Their entertainment, one of all times, is more especially adapted to a holiday season. We speak for the Hanlons a warm reception.....Edwin Adams closed at the Arch on the 21st. "Ours" is presented this current week..... We are to have "Light at Last" at the Arch, the management announcing that a representation for Monday evening, Dec. 30, This play was written expressly for Mrs Drew by Col. Fitzgerald, and the resources of the theatre will be brought into play in order to give due effect to the scenic and situations. The scene, we are told, is laid near the Lake of Killarney, although, we are glad to learn, the public will be spared the infliction of shillelaghs, and the rearing, tearing, jabbering of the conventional Irish drama, which is now about played out. Col. Fitzgerald has devoted much time and attention to "Light at Last," and as the play is to be clothed in new scenery, costumes, etc., we trust that it may prove successful.....John E. Owens will probably succeed "Cendrillon" at the Chestnut.....They are talking of erecting a German theatre in Philadelphia, and subscriptions are said to have been made toward the carrying out of the enterprise.....A dramatization of Dickens' Christmas story, "No Thoroughfare," is underlined at the Chestnut.....The following is said to be a correct statement of the gross receipts at the theatres and principal places of amusement in Philadelphia for each month of the present year except December:—

WALNUT STREET THEATRE.

1867.	*Gross Receipts.*	1867.	*Gross Receipts*
January	$14,248	August	$14,863
February	14,716	September	13,892
March	15,698	October	8,045
April	10 794	November	24,489
May	9,689		
June	12,315	Total	$138,929
July	(Closed.)		

ARCH STREET THEATRE.

January	$12 459	August	(Closed.)
February	13,388	September	$5,693
March	15,005	October	9,441
April	12,484	November	14,835
May	11,005		
June } July }	6,548	Total	$99,848

NEW CHESTNUT STREET THEATRE.

January	$16,869	Augus	(Closed.)
February	16,560	September	$5,592
March	14,142	October	12,047
April	13,535	November	11,284
May	10 288		
June	(Closed.)	Total	$105,210
July	6,798		

CARNCROSS AND DIXEY'S MINSTRELS.

January	$7,717	August	$6,577
February	5 856	September	8,344
March	7,343	October	8 811
April	7.214	November	9,299
May	4,486		
June	(Closed.)	Total	$68,144
July	(Closed.)		

NEW SEVENTH STREET OPERA HOUSE.

September 18 to October 31	$6,757
November	4,354
Total	$11,111

LONG'S VARIETIES.

January	$518	August	$581
February	476	September	477
March	521	October	597
April	539	November	455
May	490		
June	388	Total	$5,456
July	414		

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

January. A. Birgfeld	$2,801	June, Benefit O. Marlowe.	$600
Feb., March. } Japan'e Troupe.	25,300	July, Leonard Grover	6,407
April, Benefit C. Durang.	2,353	August	(Closed.)
April, Richings' Opera	9 565	Sept., Black Crook	17,962
April 16. Carl Wolfsohn	1,800	Sept., S. J. Grau, Historical	5,466
April 22, Ben't Barton Hill	836	Oct. 28 to Nov. 30, Richings' Opera	23,097
May, Mrs F. W. Lander	5,618	Total	$101,656
May, Ben't George Hood.	1,870		

NEW AMERICAN THEATRE.

January	$1 200	August	(Being rebuilt.)
February	2,231	September	$2,935
March	3,986	October	2,281
April	2,

DAVY'S "BLACK CROOK" PARTY opened at the Athenæum, Keokuk, Iowa, on the 11th, to a good house, considering the very bad night.

HENORI appeared at the Opera House, Columbus, Ohio, on the 25th inst., in "Mary Stuart."

"BLUEBEARD; OR, FEMALE CURIOSITY," is the title of a spectacular drama produced at the Park Theatre, Brooklyn, N. Y., this week. The Bedouin Arabs have also been secured.

E. EDDY reappears at the Opera House, Williamsburg, L. I., this week, supported by Henrietta Irving. "The Jewess" was announced for production on the 23d and 24th inst.

LADY DON continued her engagement last week at the Athenæum, Detroit, Mich. A correspondent says:—"'Arrah Na Pogue' was produced on the 16th and repeated on the 17th, with Lady Don as Arrah, May Howard as Fanny Powers, J. Whiting as O'Grady, and H. Ashley as Shaun. The play was well produced but poorly attended. 'Caste' was given the two following evenings, with Lady Don as Polly Eccles, May Howard as Esther, Mrs. Post as the Marchioness, and B. Macauley as Old Eccles. This play has met with success. It has been produced three times this season, and always with increasing popularity. The part of Polly seems scarcely adapted to Lady Don. She lacks the irrepressible vivacity and *naïve*, noisy mirth that Miss Howard invested the part with. Her sweet singing was, of course, unrivaled. Miss Howard made a beautiful Esther, and caused tears to flow from more than one in the house in her impersonation of the pathetic parts. For Lady Don's benefit on the 20th, 'Sweethearts and Wives' and the burlesque of 'Aladdin' were given. On the 23d 'The Seven Sisters' is announced for production. Manager Macauley takes a part of the company to Toledo, to present 'Caste' on Christmas night—Rachel Johnson as Esther, May Howard as Polly.

"GREAT ARABIAN NIGHTS ENTERTAINMENT; OR, LOITERING ON ENCHANTED GROUND," consisting of fifty gorgeous tableaux, is offered for sale cheap, by J. C. Martin, in an advertisement in other column.

DAVIS & CO., the dramatic agents of Cincinnati, O., are prepared to make engagements for people and procure talent for managers, as they announce in their advertisements elsewhere.

THE VARIETIES THEATRE, St. Louis, Mo., closed on Dec. 16th, with a benefit to Manager Burnett. The theatre was crowded. Joe Jefferson kindly remained over and appeared in his specialty of "Rip Van Winkle." Mr. Burnett also appeared in a favorite part. On the 20th the theatre reopened, when Miss Sallie Mason took a benefit, and on the 21st Geo. Beam was to have a benefit, night, in St Louis, on the 25th inst.

ADE BAR'S OPERA HOUSE, St Louis, Fanny B. Price has been playing to poor business during the past week. She presented a new version of "Marie Antoinette," dramatised by Mr. D. Hanchett. Miss Price is followed by Edwin Adams, who was to open on the 23d.

"NO THOROUGHFARE" is the title of a new play by Geo. L. Aiken, it Chicago, from whom copies may be obtained as per advertisement in another column.

"GREAT CITY" AND "OURS."—Parties producing either of the above plays without proper authority will find a warning from C. P Clarke in another column.

A COMBINED ADVANCE AGENT, also one or two actors, are advertised for by McKean Buchanan in another column of this week's CLIPPER.

THREE GOOD ACTRESSES, including a leading and juvenile lady, are wanted for the Watertown Dramatic Club. For how to addressee M. C. Lasbar's advertisement.

JOSEPH JEFFERSON is at the National Theatre, Cincinnati, this week, and remains during the holidays.

AT YOUNG MEN'S HALL, Detroit, Mich., Mollie Williams and Fe'ix Vincent appeared on the 23d, with "Wept of the Wish-ton Wish," followed by Mrs. Lander and her combination on the 26th.

T. E. MILLS' DRAMATIC COMPANY opened in Beaver Dam, Wis., on Dec. 14th in the "Octoroon" to a crowded house. On Dec. 16th "Ten Nights in a Bar Room" was played to a good house, with T. E. Mills as Joe Morgan. E. C. Buell, low comedian, joined the company on Dec. 16th.

ANOTHER SHOOTING AFFAIR.—A sad affair took place in Atlanta, Geo., on the 14th inst., between Ed. Acker, leading man, and W. P. Mobley, treasurer of Crisp's company. A correspondent furnishes us with the following particulars:—"Mr. Acker feeling dissatisfied, tendered his resignation to Mrs. Crisp, when Mr. Mobley, her son-in-law, who was present at the interview, followed Mr. Acker out, and accused him of insulting Mrs. Crisp, telling him that he should apologise to her or he would pull his nose. Mr. Acker believing that the insult was premeditated, and having had information to the effect that Mr Mobley was armed for him, stepped a few paces back—telling Mr. Mobley at the same time to draw and defend himself—drew his pistol, and at the end of the warning commenced firing. The first shot was fired at his head, cutting his neck-tie; the second shot was more fatal, entering Mr. Mobley's hip, causing a deep and very painful wound; the third shot took effect in his right hand. Mr. Acker put up his pistol, walked up Broad street, when he was arrested, and taken before Judge Smith, who, refusing him bail, had him incarcerated during the night, until Mr. Mobley was pronounced out of danger, when Mr. Acker was released upon a bail of one thousand dollars, to appear at the April term of the Superior Court, to answer the charge of assault and attempt to murder. Although Mr. Acker has but lately come amongst us, and an entire stranger, such has been his popularity as an actor that he had very little trouble in getting friends to go his bond."

JOSEPH JEFFERSON is said to have been married in Chicago, on the 20th inst., to Mary Warren, daughter of the treasurer, old Mr. Warren, and niece of the Mayor of Chicago.

"DOLLY" DAVENPORT NOT DEAD.—It is not every man that has the gratification of reading his own obituary notice, as did "Dolly" last week. It appears that another person by the same name died in New Orleans, and some one telegraphed to this city that it was our "Dolly," and the next day the cables contained long and flattering obituary notices of him. Some of his friends in this city telegraphed the following:—"Messrs. Spaulding & Bidwell, Academy of Music.—Please send body of A. H. Davenport, deceased, by steamer, to his mother, —— street, New York city." The telegram was handed "Dolly," who replied as follows:—"*****—I will try and bring my body myself—never was better able to do so in my life. A. H. DAVENPORT."

SHERRY'S DRAMATIC COMPANY were at Titusville, Pa., last week, and this week will be at Erie, Pa.

MISS KATE PENNOYER is engaged to lead the ballet in "Cendrillon" at the new Chestnut Street Theatre, Philadelphia.

COPIES of the "Duchess of Gerolstein," with the music, can be purchased by addressing Owen Fawcett, as stated in an advertisement elsewhere.

"NEVER TOO LATE TO MEND" was played several nights last week at the Metropolitan Theatre, Indianapolis, Ind. On the 20th inst. Mrs J. A. Hodges took a benefit.

THE LOTTI-GERMAN OPERA TROUPE opened at the National, Cincinnati, on the 16th inst., but business was light during the week.

BLAISDELL'S NEW THEATRE, styled the Theatre Comique, opened in Sacramento, Cal., on Nov. 20th, with a first class company.

MUSCULARLY INCLINED.—A Melbourne paper of a recent date contains the account of a tiff between M'lle Escott and her husband, Henry Squires, which had like to have proved a serious matter for the *primo tenore*. It appears Henry allowed his eyes to wander in another direction than that of the attraction by his own fireside, and worshipped gods other than his own *lares et penates*. This proved too much for the *prima donna*, and she gave him a touch of her temper as Lucretia Borgia, in the shape of a bare bodkin, letting out some of his warm blood, and restoring him to his good behavior. One account states that the fierce-eyed, jealous *donna* had been restrained of her liberty by the law, and would be compelled to answer for her offence before a Colonial Court of Justice; another mentions that the unpleasantness had been enamelled by kind words, and Enrico and Lucia were billing and cooing as of old. Perhaps this little affair may afford a reason for the delay of the singers in visiting this part of the world.

Circuses.

DAN SHELBY, who, on account of ill health, was obliged to leave Magnley & Carroll's Circus several months ago, has recovered, and is now ready for business again, as will be seen by referring to his card among our amusement advertisements.

THE AMPHITHEATRE, in Louisville, is said to be doing an excellent business, it having picked up wonderfully since its opening. Davenport, the clown vocalist, makes his appearance this week.

JOHN ROBINSON'S CIRCUS AND MENAGERIE opened in Montgomery, Ala., on the 16th inst., and Mobile 19th.

ON THE OCCASION of old Dan Gardner's benefit at the Philadelphia Circus on Dec. 23d, George Brown was announced to return a backward somersault with two fifty-six pound weights attached to his feet." A remarkably weighty feat, truly. Sam Long had also volunteered.

ORRIN'S CIRCUS arrived at St. Thomas, W. I., on Nov 26th, from the island of Martinique, *en route* to Porto Rico; falling short of water, they put into that port for a supply; their vessel was becalmed for two days between that island and St. Croix, and they experienced several shocks of earthquake, which further induced them to stop there for information. They intended leaving for Curacao and Venezuela, in consequence of the unfortunate state of the island of Porto Rico, but hoped to return to St. Thomas soon for the celebration of the American settlement.

JOHNSON'S AMPHITHEATRE is said to be doing a fair business at Macomb, Ill., and Burlington. Among the performers are C. Le Fowler, Mrs. James T. Johnson, the Austin Brothers, Dick Beswick, Joseph Key, E. J. Hoyt, Charley Meiler and David Gilam.

THE WOMBALD BROTHERS, contortionists, gymnasts, etc., advertise in the CLIPPER for an engagement with a circus company for the season of 1868.

THE GIRAFFE owned by A. Forepaugh died in Philadelphia on on the 20th inst., of epilepsy.

DEATH OF AN ELEPHANT KEEPER.—W. S. Williams, a gentleman better known as "Canada Bill," and one of the most experienced elephant keepers in this country, met a horrible death at Hatborough, Pa., on the 18th inst. It appears that a portion of the animals of Forepaugh's menagerie establishment were placed in winter quarters at the stable of Mr. James Miller, at Hatborough, and Mr. Williams was the keeper of the elephant "Romeo." On the morning of the 19th Mr. Williams went into "Romeo's" quarters, and found the monster in no amiable mood. After temporarily bringing the animal to terms by administering some punishment, Mr. Williams took "Romeo" to a trough for the purpose of washing his face and tusks. As he (Williams) was stooping, with his back towards him, "Romeo" suddenly seized him with his trunk and dashed him with great violence against the wall, after which he gored him fearfully with his tusks. He then kneeled on the prostrate man with his ponderous weight, and crushed him fearfully. The screams of Mr. Williams brought Mr. Miller and some others to his assistance, and with considerable danger to those engaged in the work, the mutilated body of the unfortunate man was dragged out, the elephant being kept at bay by means of pitchforks. Medical aid was at once summoned, but Mr. Williams expired in a little over an hour afterward. Mr. Williams was well known by every professional in the circus business as the only man living that could exercise any power over "Romeo." We have been personally acquainted with him for ten years and he enjoyed the acquaintance as well as the good opinion of every man with whom he came in contact. During the past fifteen years he has had charge of all the vicious elephants that have been in this country and has traveled thousands of miles with circus companies. He left a wife, but no children. He owned a farm at London, C. W.

Negro Minstrelsy.

DICK SANDS' MINSTRELS are heavily billed for an appearance at Providence, R. I., on the 24th and 25th inst.

DUPREE AND BENEDICT'S MINSTRELS perform in Hartford, Conn., on the 25th and 26th inst.

THE BURLESQUE of "Norwood," which has been so cleverly produced at Hooley's Opera House, and which has been so well and deservedly received by the Brooklynites, is in its third week, and promises to enjoy as lengthy a run as anything Manager Hooley has yet produced. Dave Reed, who has been delighting New York audiences the past week at Kelly and Leon's Minstrel Hall, reappears this week with the Hooley flock, and does a song and dance. An afternoon performance will be given on Christmas.

DUPREE AND BENNEDICT'S MINSTRELS are billed in Manchester, N. H., for Dec. 23d.

MONA AND M'LLE CADONA are the attractions with Newcomb's Minstrels in Cincinnati.

OTTO BURBANK has returned to California, arriving there on Nov. 27th.

DAN BRYANT played a week's engagement as a minstrel at Platt's Hall, San Francisco, Cal. He opened on Nov. 23d, and when the doors were opened the crowd rushed in with such impetuosity that the ticket office was swept away compleatly, and Joe Murphy and others of the company had to post themselves at the door and receive the money In a short time every foot of standing room in the hall was occupied. The hall was densely crowded each night he appeared.

THE ARLINGTON MINSTRELS closed a successful week's business at Weisiger Hall, Louisville, Ky., on the 14th. The troupe is said to be a good one, possessing one of the finest quartets of voices in the profession. They are coming east.

NIGGER MINSTRELSY in Philadelphia is to have an accession to its ranks this week, Morris' Minstrels opening at Concert Hall on Dec. 23d. The party consists of Lon Morris, director; Charles A. Morris, manager; and the following people:—Billy Morris, tamborine; J. C. Campbell, bones; Ainsley Scott, interlocutor; W. Blakeney, J. Walters, etc. They are to remain in Philadelphia two weeks.....Carncross and Dixey's Minstrels don't know what it is to have a bad house. As a holiday at raction they bring out this week a pantomime called "The Magic Pearl," with new scenery, tricks, changes, transformations, etc. It is well cast, H. Fraser appearing as clown, Lew Simmons as Pantaloon, Geo. W. Charles as Columbine, Charles Gibbons as Harlequin, etc. They give good entertainments at this hall, which is nightly thronged with lovers of minstrelsy.....At the Seventh street establishment business is not encouraging. Frank Brower and Eph. Horn, who were connected with the troupe a short time ago, have left, and Frank Moran, J. H. Budworth and Johnny Mack are now the principal features A variety of toys will be distributed at this house during the holidays. .....Eph. Horn is now performing at Fox's Varieties.

ARLINGTON'S MINSTRELS are advertised ahead as follows:—Springfield, Ill., 28th and 29th; Peoria, 1st and 2d January; Milwaukie, Wis., 9th, 10th and 11th; Detroit, Mich., 21st, 22d and 23d; Cleveland, 28th and 29th; Buffalo, Feb. 3d, 4th and 5th. So on East to Boston, thence South to Washington, returning to Chicago on april 1st and open in their new hall. Wm. Arlington and Cool Burness are on the end. J. H. Haverly is manager and D. B. Hodges agent.

JOHNNY LEAVITT had a complimentary benefit at Mercantile Hall, Boston, on the 16th inst. M. B. Leavitt's minstrels appeared together with a host of volunteers who were well received.

WILSON'S MINSTRELS, in St. Louis, continue the centre of attraction, and are nightly thronged with large and delighted audiences In addition to the already large company, Wagner was added to its strength on the 16th, and on the 23d Lew Brimmer, the banjo soloist, was to make his first appearance.

MORRIS BROTHERS' MINSTRELS gave two entertainments at Reading, Pa., on the 20th, and 21st.

Music Halls.

AT THE METROPOLITAN HALL, Washington, D. C., business continues good. Sam Collyer closed there on the 21st, but reappears Christmas afternoon, volunteering for the benefit of his former manager, Billy Rice. The comic singing of Billy Pastor is a feature at this house. On the 23d Prof. Tanner's troupe of dogs and monkeys put in an appearance. Johnny Prendergast, Warren, Winship, Hall, Hannah Birch, Marie Zoe, Nellie Edwards, Minnie Clark, Maggie and Sallie Weaner, and Billy Rice continue in the company.

AT THE PALACE VARIETIES, Cincinnati, Mlle McCool was up for a benefit on the 18th inst.

"Zozo," the new *ballet* presented during the past week at Fox's American Variety Theatre, Philadelphia, has hit the taste of the patrons of that establishment. It is gotten up in splendid style, the costumes of the dancers being really elegant, while the closing scene and tableaux are deserving of all commendation. M'lle Millie Fora a dashing *danseuse*, makes her appearance at the American this week. Manager Fox is deserving of all the success he is meeting with. "Zozo" don't fail to please old and young, and will be left on the bills until further notice.

AT THE VARIETIES, Pittsburgh, Pa., there were several new faces last week. The company is now composed of Clara Burton, M'lle Victoria, La Petite Cecelia, Lucy Clifton, Alice Leidler, George R. Ellison, Clarke Gibbs, H. W. Williams, T. H. Williams and T. H. Jefferson.

LARRY TOOLEY is at the Canterbury, Washington, D. C., this week.

THE VARIETIES, Memphis, Tenn., continues to do a fair business, with its combined attractions, the chief of which is Willis Cobb, and his trained dogs, goats and monkeys. There is an interlude entitled "Hans Krant's Hunting Adventures," in which Mr. Cobb and his dogs are said to be entertaining, and Johnny Smith has an amusing part. Among the most pleasing and popular of the female performers are Kate Partington and Sallie E. Eldridge, the "Jordan Medley" of the former, and the ballad of the latter, "When the Swallows Homeward Fly," having received the liveliest expressions of popular favor. The breaking up of Deagle's company in that city was a good thing for the manager of this establishment, as he secured many of the best cards.

FITZ SIMMONS, with his prize dramas, has been the attraction at the Varieties Theatre, Detroit, Mich. "The Female Pickpocket" was produced last week, with all the company in the cast. Fanny Archer, Ettie Barker, Nellie Taylor, Lazelle and Franklin and Pete Lee are in the company.

WRIGHT'S VARIETIES, Richmond, Va., is a great resort for the lovers of amusement. Among the attractive professionals there are Rosa Vallandt, Johnny Harris, Billy Boyd, Billy Laconia and little Agnes Harris. By an advertisement elsewhere it will be seen that additional talent is wanted.

JOHNNY MATWOOD, whose *forte* is jig and clog dancing, with song, advertises in the CLIPPER for an engagement.

GUS SHAW and Charley Spencer have opened a fine little Music Hall at 182 Washington street, Buffalo, N. Y., where Gus Shaw and Lizzie Phillips appear each evening in duets and solos.

THE VARIETIES, Cincinnati, Ohio, is said to have been doing a good business. Among the new arrivals are Ben Brown, Ethiopian comedian; Gibbonoise, contortionist; Miss Davis, *danseuse*, and McCormick, comic vocalist. Granfrau as Jacob Kalbfleish, in the Dutch burlesque by that name, is said to have made a favorable impression.

AT THE AMERICAN THEATRE, Baltimore, Md., Mr. and Mrs. John L. Davis appear to give nearly the whole show. Ben Mason joins the company this week.

LAWENCE'S GERMANIA HALL, Harrisburg, Pa., continues to draw large audiences. Last week Tim Hayes, clog dancer, put in appearance. During the week an original farce, written for this establishment by J. W. Berkley, entitled "The Intelligence Office," was produced, introducing Annie Gibbons, J. W. Berkley and Tom McIntyre.

Miscellaneous.

NEW UNION HALL, Canton, Ill., a new institution adapted for concerts, lectures, dramatic performances, etc., may be rented on application to Messrs. Daly & Kessler, as per advertisement

ANIMALS of various descriptions, adapted for exhibition either in museums or circuses, consisting of bears, tigers, lions, etc., are advertised to be leased or let for the forthcoming season in another column of the CLIPPER. This seems to be a good opportunity for those inclined to invest in this direction, and early application would seem to be necessary.

F. S. CURRIER, pianist, recently with Tom Thumb, advertises in the CLIPPER for an engagement.

A CANVAS, the dimensions of which are 120 feet, round top, is advertised for sale in another column.

BANJO INSTRUCTION, as well as instructions in jig and clog dancing, may be obtained by addressing J. K. Buckley, according to his advertisements in another column.

THE ACADEMY OF MUSIC, late Fourth Street Theatre, Cincinnati, is occupied by "Skaats' Illuminated Pictures and Dissolving Views."

PROF. QUEEN, the "Fakir," was at North Woburn, Dec. 21st, and is to be at Middleton on the 24th.

C. A. LEWIS, prestidigitator, commenced a four nights' stay in Aurora, Ill., on Dec. 21st.

THE CARTER ZOUAVE TROUPE appear at Ogdensburg, N. Y., on New Year's Day.

A COMIC AND SENTIMENTAL SINGER is wanted for an old established variety troupe. Parties wishing such a position should address at once as instructed in advertisement.

BOOKS ON THE BANJO, by which pupils can learn how to manipulate that popular instrument, have been published by the famous banjoist, Frank B Converse. For how to procure them read his advertisement in this and succeeding issues of the CLIPPER.

CARLO TORNESE' TROUPE will open in Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 24th, with a fine variety troupe. See advertisement

CHARLEY SHAY'S QUINCUPLEXAL TROUPE is reported to have done a good business at Utica, Syracuse, Rochester and Albion, N. Y. The company will perform at Brainard's Hall, Cleveland, Ohio, on the 25th and 26th, and Toledo, Ohio, 31st and Jan. 1st.

THE "FAIRY QUEEN," Miss Maria Nail, a General Tom Thumb, the Japanese Twins with two heads, two legs and four arms, a fat boy and a Chinese dog were on exhibition last week at Selma, Alabama.

THE MENDELSOHN QUINTET CLUB, of Boston, gave one concert at the Opera House, Columbus, Ohio, on Dec. 3d.

MACALLISTER, the wizard, commenced at the Opera House, Columbus Ohio, on the 18th inst., for two weeks.

THE PEAK AND BERGER FAMILIES OF BELL RINGERS opened in Keokuk, Iowa, to a good house. The company appear this week at Peoria, Ill., 23d and 24th, and Pekin, 25th and 26th.

A PARTY calling himself "Artemus Ward, jr.," was to have lectured at the Opera House, Newark, N. J., on the 16th inst., but owing to so small an audience (eighteen people) did not appear.

THE "FAKIR OF AVA," with Weston, the humorist, opened in Newark, N. J., on the 17th inst., to a crowded house.

JAMES MURDOCH read at City Hall, Providence, on the 16th inst., to a crowded house.

CAMILLA URSO, Wm. Macdonald, Mr. H. W. Smith and others appeared at the American Brass Band Concert at Providence, R. I., on the 17th.

THE JAPANESE (Sam Sharpley's), appear in Providence, R. I., on the 26th, 27th and 28th inst

NEW CONCERT HALL.—A hall on Market street, near Montgomery, San Francisco, Cal., will shortly be fitted up in a style especially suitable for chamber concerts, and will hold about two hundred persons. It will be opened during the present month.

AN EFFORT is about being made to introduce sacred Sunday concerts in the quiet city of Philadelphia. Mark Hassler taking the initiative in the matter, and announcing the opening concert for Sunday evening, Dec. 29th. To ease the consciences of all engaged in the unpious act the proceeds of the first concert are to be donated to the Home Missionary Society. *That* ought to make them go down.

THE PEAK FAMILY SWISS BELL RINGERS open at the Fourth Street Theatre, Cincinnati, on the 23d inst.

THE LUBIN BROTHERS, manufacturers and importers of magic apparatus, may be addressed by those wanting anything in that line as per advertisement.

A PORTFOLIO OF THEATRICAL SCENES, and other things in this line of business, may be procured of L. W. Seavey & Co., as per advertisements.

THE DOBSON BROTHERS publish a card in this week's CLIPPER in reply to Buckley's challenge, in which they refuse to play with the pupil before the teacher, as they have had a standing challenge to play Mr. Converse for some time.

THE TOM THUMB COMBINATION were at Sunbury, Pa., on the 21st inst.

BLIND TOM gave two entertainments in Harrisburg, Pa., on the 20th and 21st, and was billed for Williamsport 23d, thence to Elmira, Albany, etc.

BURLESQUES on Maseppa and other plays, as well as two new songs, may be procured of J. S. Berry, as per advertisement.

A BALLAD and comic singer are wanted by a well-organized traveling troupe. For address see advertisement elsewhere.

THE SHADOW PANTOMIMES OF MOTHER GOOSE, with dialogue, figures, etc., and which is well calculated to please the children and home circle during the holidays, may be procured of Thos. Yates, as per advertisement.

Amateur.

THE NEW YORK DRAMATIC UNION held forth on the 13th inst., at Dramatic Hall, in this city, and performed the "Poor Gentleman" and "Raising the Wind." James Sutton sustained the part of Fred Bramble, and Messrs. Faulkner, Richmond, and R. Smith were good in their respective *roles*. Mr. Smith, as Ollapod, played with his accustomed ability. "Raising the Wind" went off smoothly, and the entertainment ended with a hop.

THE AMERICAN DRAMATIC ASSOCIATION have secured the services of that excellent actress, Mrs. W. L. Jamison, for their opening entertainment. The lady will appear as Pauline, to the Claude Melnotte of P. J. Healy.

THE ALLIANCE DRAMATIC ASSOCIATION, of Alliance, Ohio, have been playing in that town to good houses. "The Honeymoon," "Angel of the Attic," "Serious Family," "Handy Andy," "Lady of the Lake," "Don Cæsar de Bazan," "Drunkard," "Rose of Ettrick Vale," and "Uncle Tom's Cabin" have been performed.

THE BOOTHMAN DRAMATIC ASSOCIATION, of Philadelphia, gave a performance of "Money" on the 19th inst. A correspondent says:—"The gentleman cast for the part of Evelyn is a good reader. The part of Sir John Vesey had to be read, on account of the sickness of Mr. Quigley. Mr. Hayhurst did not play Graves as well as might be expected from so old an amateur. He was very imperfect in his part. Mr. Francis read Sir Frederick Blount, in a very funny manner, but infused no life into the part. Mr. Thomas, as Dudley Smouth, was good. Miss Loraine, as Clara Douglas, was entirely too affected. Miss Walters, as Lady Franklin, and Miss Graham, as Georgina, were also good."

Foreign Dramatic and Show News.

THE LONDON, ENG., THEATRES were all busily engaged at last advices preparing for the Christmas holidays. The Covent Garden unites in an extravaganza pantomime the two familiar stories of "Robin Hood" and "Babes in the Wood," with J. Clarke, Miss Amy Sheridan and the Payne Family in the cast. .....Drury Lane is supplied, as usual, by Mr. E. L. Blanchard with its Christmas Annual, which is entitled "Faw, Fee, Fo, Fum; or Harlequin Jack the Giant Killer".....The Haymarket is furnished by Mr. Gilbert a'Beckett with a burlesque on "The Brigand,".....The Lyceum, under E. T. Smith's management, opens on "Boxing Night" with a pantomime, by W. S. Gilbert, call d "Cock Robin and Jenny Wren".....The Prince of Wales' will rely on Boucicault's new comedy of "How She Loves Him".....The Adelphi has an adaptation of the Christmas number of "All the Year Round," called "No Thoroughfare," and in which Mr. Fechter will appear.....At the Strand will be produced a new extravaganza, by William Brough, called "The Caliph of Bagdad." .....At the New Royalty W. S. Gilbert has a burlesque on the subject of "The Bohemian Girl."..... The Holborn has a pantomime, furnished by Mr. Burnand, on the story of "Valentine and Orson."..... At the Victoria the pantomime will be "Harlequin Merry Monarch; or, Nell Gwynne and Long-heads and Round-heads."..... Sadler's Wells has a pantomime on the subject of "Little Red Riding Hood;" and Astley's will re-open at Christmas with a pantomime in which a number of familiar nursery rhymes will be illustrated.

VESTVALI was to have had a benefit on the 14th inst. at the Lyceum Theatre, London, Eng., and perform Romeo for the twenty-fourth time. On Jan. 21st she commences a four weeks' engagement at the Royal Amphitheatre Liverpool, Eng.

THE JAPANESE TROUPE, taken to Paris by Richard Risley, were announced to make their first appearance in London on the 16th inst.

ASA CUSHMAN and Joey Tennyson, two American performers, are at Weston's Music Hall, London.

THE BURLESQUE of "Black Eyed Susan" was played at the Royalty Theatre, London, Eng., on Dec. 5th, for the three hundred and eleventh time. In this city it had a run of not quite three weeks.

DESTRUCTION OF HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, LONDON, ENG.—In our issue of the 14th inst. we briefly alluded to the destruction of this theatre, which occurred on Dec. 6th. We now have our London files, and learn that smoke was first discovered issuing from the lower portion of the house, and within five minutes a bright flame shot through the roof of the building; when the fire engines arrived the Haymarket, half the roof of the new structure was wrapped in a fierce and lurid blaze. By 9 o'clock the whole structure was in ruins. The first theatre built on this spot was erected by Sir John Vanbrugh. It was raised by thirty persons of rank, principally of the Whig party, if we may judge by their inscribing the first stone with the words "Little Whig," in compliment to Lady Sutherland, a celebrated beauty of the day. The money subscribed was £100 each, and the theatre opened April 9, 1705, with an Italian opera, which was far from being successful. In the year 1720 a sum of £58,000 was raised by subscription to support the Italian opera. On June 17, 1789, the theatre was burned down, and, in consequence of this accident, the opera was transferred first to the "little theatre" in the Haymarket, and subsequently to the Pantheon in Oxford street, which was licensed by the Lord Chamberlain. During this interval Mr. Taylor, the proprie or of the old opera house, exerted himself so successfully that the foundation of the new erection was laid by the Duke of Buckingham, and in less than a year the house was completed. The season of 1791 at the Pantheon was very unsuccessful to the manager, Mr. O'Reilly, who thereby incurred debt to the amount of thirty thousand pounds. On the new opera house being completed, a general opera establishment was formed, and the direction reposed in five noblemen, on whose refusal to act, the management should devolve on Taylor, and the debts of the Pantheon scene were transferred to the new concern. The then Lord Chamberlain refused to grant the license, but the Pantheon being destroyed by fire in the following season, the King's Theatre was licensed, and the regular business of the opera commenced. The entire management soon fell into Mr. Taylor's hands, and thus continued till 1806, when he sold several shares to a Mr. Goold, who conducted the management until 1807. On Goold's death the management devolved on Taylor, who soon became involved in a Chancery suit with Mr. Waters, Goold's executor No change, however, took place till 1813, when the house was for some time closed by order of the Lord Chancellor. In 1814, it was reopened under the management of Mr. Waters, who purchased it under decree for £35,000. In 1816 the theatre was again put up for sale, and the whole concern was purchased by Waters for £70,150. The year 1817 was a brilliant one, for the company included Madame Fodor and Madame Pasta, with Crevelli, Begrez, Naldi, Ambrogetti, etc; and "Don Giovanni" was first made known to an English audience. In 1818 the concern relapsed into its former state. At the conclusion of the season of 1823, the theatre was let to Mr. Benelli; but Mr. Ebers afterwards resumed the management, which he retained till the close of 1827. In 1828 the theatre was let to Mr. Laporte and M. Laurent, at the rent of £8,000 and this was a season of great success in consequence of the combined attractions of Sontag and Pasta. In the course of the seven years that Mr. Ebers held the Opera House he lost, however, £44,080. The theatre passed through various hands with fluctuating fortunes, till Mr. Lumley restored its popularity in 1842, and 1847 was a singularly brilliant season, through the *debut* of Jenny Lind. In 1861, after short seasons and some long vacations, it was opened by Mr. E. T. Smith, and for the last five years the theatre has been under the direction of Mr. Mapleson. It was known as the largest in Europe, La Scala, at Milan, alone excepted. The interior had five tiers of boxes which were chiefly private, and let to persons of rank and fashion for the season.

J. F. BOOTH, a young man whom we exposed several months since for assuming the name of Booth, and traveling through England as a relative of Edwin Booth, made his *debut* at the Victoria Theatre on the 2d inst., and is announced in an advertisement in the *Era* as follows:—"First time in England of a great Temperance Drama, now attracting crowded audiences, to all the principal theatres in the United States, entitled 'Father Come Home; or, The Curse of Drunkenness.' The piece, founded upon the popular ballad of that name, introduces the celebrated American actor, Mr. J. F. Booth, who is expressly engaged to sustain his original character, introducing the entire company."

VENTVALI, who made her *debut* in London at the Royal Lyceum, on the 18th of November, seems to have created quite a *furore* judging by the comments of the English, French and German press on her Romeo, in which character she first appeared. The opening performance was attended by a large audience, embracing persons of distinction in high circles. Lord Lytton, who "assisted" at her *debut*, wrote her a complimentary letter, we are told. She had performed the character of Romeo more than three weeks up to our last advices; and was to appear next as Lady Macbeth. The following extracts, from long notices of Vestvali's performances, will convey a better idea of the manner in which she has been received than anything we could say:—

OPINION OF THE LONDON PRESS ON MISS VESTVALI'S ROMEO, AT THE ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE, LONDON.

From the Athenæum, November 23d, 1867.

Miss Felicita Vestvali, in the character of Romeo, portrayed it with the utmost skill of a well qualified artist. The audience were evidently prepared to estimate her by a high standard; accordingly the actress had to earn all the applause she received, which was bestowed when the passion was vehement, or the elocution charged with new meaning. We may give Vestvali the credit of full acquaintance with the text, which she rendered with careful emphasis, and sometimes in a manner *suggestive of new beauties*. She possesses an abundance of passion, and also the *graces of finished elocution*. Her voice is strong and deep, and manly in its tone, which enabled her to give full effect to the dialogue. The house was crowded, and it was desirable that, with an audience so fashionable, a good impression should be made in favor of the Shakespearean drama.

From the Morning Post, November 19th.

Miss Vestvali deserves great credit for the fluency and correctness of her English, the fulness and clearness of her voice, her acquaintance with what is known in theatrical language as the "business of the stage," and her intimate familiarity with whatever is verbal in the text, &c.

From the Morning Advertiser, November 19th.

There are but few men who could impersonate the leading male part in "Romeo and Juliet" better than Vestvali, if so well. She is perfectly self-possessed, and her action, which the Greek orator considered the beginning, the middle and the end of "effect," *leaves nothing to desiderate. The articulation and accent*, in a word the "prosody" of her English, are *excellent*. She is a valuable acquisition to our stage. We have still a *Helen Faucit*, a *Ristori* and, let us add, a *Vestvali*.

From the Illustrated London News, November 23d.

Miss Vestvali has a tall and commanding figure, with a deep and masculine voice, fine eyes, and expressive gesture. She wins attraction from the first by the liveliness of her action and the force of her style. She has an abundance of passion, and most artfully distributes her emphasis, &c., &c.

From the Standard, November 19th.

Miss Vestvali made her first appearance here last night at the Lyceum Theatre in the character of Romeo, and this event attracted no inconsiderable amount of curiosity in the theatrical circles of the Metropolis. Miss Vestvali displayed in her assumption of Romeo much grace, intelligence, refinement of feeling, &c. Her greatest triumph was obtained in the last act; she there wrought in no ordinary degree upon the sensibilities of her audience She was called by them *more than once before the curtain*, and she received throughout the play many marks of their approval and sympathy, &c.

From the Daily Telegraph, November 19th.

Miss Vestvali is an actress of ability *well qualified in her art*; she deservedly won increasing favor as the play advanced, and when the curtain fell received satisfactory tokens of success from a numerous, demonstrative audience.

From the Star, November 19th.

Vestvali is always forcible, vigorous and energetic. In every crucial situation of the peace she showed that she had complete mastery of the sympathies of the audience, and in the *final scene, as, indeed, at the conclusion of every act, she was greeted* with prolonged, hearty, and well merited applause.

From the Cosmopolitan, November 23d.

As a whole we have never seen Romeo better represented than at the Lyceum, at the *debut* of Vestvali. She is a contralto singer of considerable celebrity from the Imperial Opera, Paris, &c. In pronouncing Vestvali to be the best Romeo we have seen we, of course, intend to award her the highest praise. It is a far greater rendering of the character than Charlotte Cushman's or any of the great tragedians we have seen, and we have seen many of them attempt it during the last twenty years, &c.

From the Sunday Gazette.

Miss Vestvali, an actress who has made a name on the Continent and America, appeared as Romeo, at the Lyceum, and received a very flattering reception. In appearance she is tall, stylish and masculine, with a countenance indicative of thoughtfulness and determination. Her action is abundant, original, graceful, her bearing dignified, her voice clear, ringing and unusually powerful, but in the carefulness of her emphasis her chief excellence as an actress consists. It must be admitted on all hands that no one on the stage has ever given us a more powerful representation of Romeo. The dying scene was portrayed with a force *we have never seen surpassed*.

From the Hermann, November 23d.

Miss Vestvali's success as Romeo at the Lyceum Theatre was complete. She proved to be a consummate artist of the highest intelligence and genius. She is Shakespeare's idea of Romeo, and the enthusiastic audience testified how enchanted they were by calling her nightly seven times before the curtain. Her triumph in the last act is great and wonderful. We are proud to call her our countrywoman.

From the Herald, Nov. 9th.

Vestvali's greatest triumph was obtained in the last fatal scene in the churchyard, and she there wrought in no ordinary degree upon the sensibilities of her audience. She was called by them more than once before the curtain, and she received throughout the play many marks of their approval and sympathy.

From the Sunday Times, Nov. 24th.

Mlle. Vestvali's Romeo is certainly a remarkable impersonation, and one not likely to be soon rivaled. As an intellectual performance it erred on the side of being too realistic.

AMUSEMENTS.

NIBLO'S GARDEN.
Lessee and Manager.....WM. WHEATLEY
Doors open at 7; begins at 7½.
In consequence of engagements entered into many months ago, the Manager, with regret, is compelled to announce
THE LAST NIGHTS OF THE BLACK CROOK.
This performance, the fame of which is now world-wide, must be withdrawn in the height of its popularity, after a triumphant career of sixteen consecutive months, a success unprecedented in the annals of the stage
MONDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1867,
will be performed the celebrated spectacular drama, entitled
THE BLACK CROOK,
introducing Jarrett & Palmer's great Parisienne Ballet Troupe, as witnessed by over 1,500,000 persons.
THE BEST AND ONLY BALLET IN AMERICA.
THE GUARDE IMPERIALE AND CHILD VIVANDIERE.
Splendid Tableaux, Costumes, Marches, Scenery, Premium Transformation, etc., every evening till further notice.
SATURDAY NEXT, AT 1, LAST GRAND MATINEE BUT ONE. Seats secured six days in advance.

OLYMPIC THEATRE. Begins at 8.
JAMES E. HAYES.....Lessee
GEORGE L. FOX.....Stage Manager
CLIFTON W. TAYLEURE.....Business Manager
MERRY CHRISTMAS FESTIVALS.
Ninth week of the great Shakespeare's Spectacle,
A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM.
With its rare wealth of
EX

TO MOTHERS.

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER,
BY J. DOUGLAS C.

Lest I with numerous broils myself environ,
I here desire to state to readers all
That, though I take my subject from Lord Byron,
And in my ink may nse, him, some gall,
I don't agree with all said by that poet,
And my reason—you presently shall know it.

Throughout Don Juan he speaks of lovely women
As if not could be trusted out of doors;
Aye, nor inside, when the lights are turned dim on,
They all are such a pack of—well, say bores!
But Byron writes the name out in the letter,
And so would I but that I think this better.

Now that's a thing in which I don't believe him.
And were it not that death has stopped his song
I'd sum up various proofs to undeceive him
From thinking anything so very wrong;
But since he's dead, I'll say that should I ever
Be led to think like him my throat I'd sever.

He, furthermore, in that same poem discloses
How this Don Juan—yet a simple lad—
Was led away from virtue's path of roses
To do something most grievously bad,
His tempter being a lady somewhat older
And married, too, which made her all the bolder.

In this I take the hand of England's poet—
Of course, by this, I do not mean to say
That, were he living, he'd be proud to know it,
Or e'en be pleased at my familiar way,
For Byron was a lord, and somewhat cranky,
And might not like such freedom from a Yankee!

But what I wish to say is that Lord Byron
And I agree that, in affairs of heart,
The woman, truly called by poets syren,
Invariably plays the *leading* part,
And makes the man, no matter what his level,
An earthly angel or a very devil.

Such being the case, then, why will woman grumble
If man be false when he finds her untrue,
If he be proud when she herself's not humble,
If he loves more than one while she loves two;
Or, if he dares engage her in a grapple
To see which of the two shall eat Eve's Apple!

However, here I've written several verses
Without one word upon my subject yet;
Therefore since subjects, unlike misers purses,
Are often lost, lest I should mine forget
I'll go to it at once, although 'twill nettle
Those lady friends of mine who're high in mettle.

In Byron's verse he says men ta'en in battle
Were sold at market by the soulless Turk,
As though those human beings were but cattle,
Designed to do all slavish kind of work,
And were not fall the equal of those masters
Thrust on them 'gainst their will by war's disasters.

All this we read, and, knowing it to be so,
We wish that all the world was civilized,
In hopes thereby to make all mankind free, so
That each could seek the pleasures he most prized.
Then follows thoughts which generally result in
A heap of oaths being thundered at the Sultan.

Seldom, if ever, though, is our attention
Turned to the slaves around us daily sold,
Some for a miserable, life-long pension,
And others for a purse of yellow gold.
These slaves, bought up around us by our neighbors,
Unlike the Turkish slaves, sell souls and labors!

And yet these slaves are white, and very gentle,
With frames too frail to delve in slavish work;
And so refined in moral taste and mental,
That they're beloved even by the hateful Turks,
Who, best to show how great the love they bear 'em,
Or keep five hundred of them in a harem.

Thus are they sold: a maiden turning twenty
Is put up by her mother; the first bid
Comes from a youth who offers love in plenty.
The saintly matron answers, "God forbid."
The daughter hears a sigh—the only token
That all her hopes are gone and heart is broken.

The second bid comes from a hoary sinner
Who, looking on the girl with lecherous eyes,
And humoring for her sake would a dinner,
In order sure to win and wear the prize,
Bids half, perhaps, of all his worldy riches,
And so he gets her from this queen of—witches!

All honor gone, is it, then, any wonder
If sh' slave thus sold indulges sometimes in
Those pleasures which, in holy books, come under
The general heading, a most deadly sin?
Or that, to keep alive the precepts taught her,
She ends her days by selling off *her* daughter?

Oh, mothers of fair daughters, stop this traffic!
Beg, steal—do anything but sell your brood—
For, to tell the story in words few and graphic,
You're selling souls as well as flesh and blood,
Making your offspring participate in
Crimes which fit them, when they die, for Satan!

A FEW IRISH BULLS.

Why the Irish, of all people, should be distinguished for bull-making, or why there should exist amongst the natives of Ireland such an innate and irresistible propensity to blunder, is to difficult to conjecture or decide. Mr. and Miss Edgeworth, in their inquiry into the etymology of Irish Bulls, endeavor to account for it thus: "That the English, not being the mother tongue of the natives of Ireland, to them is a foreign language, and, consequently, it is scarcely within the limits of probability that they should avoid making blunders both in speaking and writing." However this may be, an Irish bull is a thing more easily conceived than defined. Perhaps, did we search for its precedent among the long list of bold tropes and figures handed down to us from the old Greek writers and orators, the nearest approach we could find to it would be under the title of *Catachresis*—a catachresis being "the boldest of any trope, *accessity makes it borrow and employ an expression or term contrary to the thing it means to express.*" This certainly conveys a just idea of what an Irish bull is or should be.

Paddy Blake, hearing an English gentleman speaking in praise of the fine echo of Killarney, which repeats the sound forty times, promptly replied: "Faith, sir, that's nothing at all to the fine echo in my father's garden in Galway, for if you say to it, 'How do you do, Paddy Blake?' it will immediately make answer, 'Pretty well, I thank you, sir.'"

Now this echo of Paddy Blake's, which has long been the admiration of Christendom, does not at all deserve the name or appellation of an Irish bull. It is rather an exquisite specimen of that wit, quickness of repartee, and good-humored drollery for which the Irish are famous; but it does not present to our mind the double arrangement of thought and expression so absolutely essential to the proper construction of a genuine *bull*.

One of the richest specimens of a real Irish bull which has ever fallen under our notice was perpetrated by the clever and witty, but blundering Irish knight, Sir Richard Steele when inviting a certain English nobleman to visit him. "If, sir," said he, "you ever come within a mile of my house, *I hope you will stop there!*" Another by the same gentleman is well worth recording. Being asked how he accounted for his countrymen making so many bulls, he replied: "I cannot tell, if it is not the effect of climate. I fancy if an *Englishman was born in Ireland* he would make just as many."

This, again, reminds us of that well-known instance of wounded Irish pride related of the porter of a Dublin grocer, who was brought by his master before a magistrate on a charge of stealing chocolate, to which he could scarcely plead "Not Guilty." On being asked to whom he sold it, the pride of Patrick was exceedingly wounded. "To whom did I sell it?" said Pat. "Now, do you think I was so *mane* as to take it to sell?" "Then, then, sir," said the J. P., "what did you do with it?" "Do wid it! Well, then, since you *must* know, I took it home, and me and my ould 'oman made tay of it."

This ball was actually perpetrated; so also was the following: Two eminent members of the Irish bar, Doyle and Yelverton, quarrelled one day so violently, that from hard words they came to hard blows. Doyle, the more powerful man of the two (at the bar, at least), knocked down his antagonist twice, vehemently exclaiming: "You scoundrel, I'll make you behave yourself like a gentleman." To which Yelverton, rising, replied with equal indignation: "No, sir, never. I defy you, I defy you! *You could not do it!*"

The next declaration of independence we record occurred to our own knowledge. It was uttered by an exasperated rural lover, whose sweetheart had driven him "beyond the beyonds" with her "comings" and "carryings on" with his rival. "I will never *spake* to you more!" he exclaimed with exceeding vexation. "Keep your *spake* to yourself, then," said the provoking girl, coolly; "I am sure I can live without either it or your company." "I am sure so can *I*, then," was the wrathful rejoinder.

Most of our readers are familiar, no doubt, with the gallant young Irishman who declared to his sweetheart that he was in such a way about her he couldn't *sleep at night for dreaming of her*. A parallel instance to this occurred in our own hearing. When a poor lo'e protested to "his girl" in the hayfield that his two eyes *hadn't gone together all night* for thinking about her. "Very likely they did not," replied this sweet plague of his life, "for I see your nose is between them!"

The following was perpetrated by a young Irish gentleman, who was exceedingly anxious to meet a certain young Irish lady at the house of a common lady friend, who had expressed her entire readiness (as most ladies would under similar temptations), to perform the part of "daisy picker" to the young couple. "But," said the poor fellow, anxiously, "there is nothing in the world so embarrassing, you know, as to meet a girl by appointment. I am sure, under the circumstances, I wouldn't be myself—neither would she!" Suppose, my dear madame, you could manage it so as to let us meet at your house some evening, *without either of us being aware that the other was present!*"

Still another pair of lovers claim our attention. The young lady, less flustered than her admirer, addressed him in these terms: "I like you exceedingly, but I cannot quit my home. I am a widow's only darling, and no husband could equal my parent in kindness." "She may be kind," replied her wooer, enthusiastically, "but be my wife—we will all live together, and see if I don't *beat your mother!*

The next Irishman who comes under our notice is married, has not very happily. Having entered into the holy bonds at the youthful age of nineteen, he discovers that it is much easier to get the ceremony performed than afterwards to maintain an establishment. Repenting him that he had procured a wife without the means of supporting her, he declares that he will never marry so young again if he lives to be the age of Methusaleh.

The next sight we get into the cares and troubles that married life is heir to, is through the mild remonstrance of a Hibernian *pater familias*, who declares to his wife that he really wishes the children could be kept in the nursery while he is at home, "although" he considerately adds, "*I would not object to their noise if they would only keep quiet.*"

We shall now proceed to Dublin, where doubtless still resides that old beggar woman, who, whilst soliciting charity, declared she was the mother *of six small children and a sick husband.*

We wonder was this lady any relation to the poor Irishman who offered his only old saucepan for sale; his children gathering around him inquired why he did so. "Ah, my honeys," said he, "sure I wouldn't be afther partin' wid it if it wasn't to get some money to buy somethin' to put in it."

"It was in Dublin city that our good-humored maid-of-all-work, Molly, once related to her young mistress a most marvelous dream she had had the night before.

"Pooh, pooh!" cries the latter at its conclusion, "you must have been asleep, Molly, when you dreamed such nonsense."

"Indeed I was not, then," replied the indignant Molly; I was just as wide awake as I am this minute."

We are now going to introduce to you what in drapers' parlance would be called a "choice variety," and which we only wish, in displaying our light, fantastic stores, we could recommend with half the address with which a draper of my acquaintance once recommended a certain rich material for ladies' dresses to a customer. "Madam," said he, "it will wear forever, and make a petticoat afterward."

This draper, however, is almost outdone by an enterprising *furrier*, who intimates to "all such ladies as desire genuine *furs*, that he will make muffs, boas, etc., *out of their own skins.*"

Horace Walpole records in his "Walpoliana" an Irish bull, which he pronounces to be the best he ever met with. "I hate that woman," said a gentleman, looking at a person who had been his nurse; "*I hate her, for when I was a child she changed me at nurse.*" This was indeed a perplexing assertion; but we have a similar instance recorded in the autobiography of an Irishman, who gravely informs us that he "ran away early in life from his father on discovering he was only his uncle."

Again, a poor Irish lad, complaining of the harsh behavior of his father, declares he just treats him as if he were his son by another father and mother.

The next bull we record is redolent of the soil, and proves that in Ireland at least the determination to overcome impossibilities is not yet extinct. An Irishman having challenged a gentleman to fight a duel, who somehow *forgot* to attend the appointment, met accidentally that same day the offending party, and thus addressed him: "Well, sir, I met you this morning, but you did not come; *however, I am determined to meet you to-morrow morning, whether you come or not!*" We wonder was the gentleman who displayed such a reluctance to be present the same who declared he would not fight a duel, because he was unwilling to leave his old mother an orphan.

An apprentice sailor boy fell from the "round-top" to the deck, stunned, but little hurt. The captain exclaimed in surprise: "Why, where did you come from?" "From the north of Ireland, yer honor!" was the prompt reply, as the poor fellow gathered himself up.

It is only a few months since the *Times* perpetrated a most perfect bull. In a review of Tennyson's "Enoch Arden," the following sentence occurs relative to the self-denial of Enoch, who keeps his existence a secret from his wife, whom he finds married again and happy. "He died, but *not until he died* did he mention to those around him who he was!" Now, who should ever expect, on looking over John Bull's great representative, to meet with such a genuine Irishism as that? We can only account for it by supposing it was perpetrated by an Irishman. We believe a number of them are employed upon the staff of that august publication.

Not to be outdone, however by its monster contemporary, an Irish paper announced, not many weeks since, the death of a poor deaf man called Gaff. He had been run over by a locomotive, and, adds the paper, "he received a *similar injury* this time last year."

Another excellent bull of the same kind was perpetrated by a coroner in the County Limerick this spring. Being asked how he could account for the fearful mortality last winter, he replied: "I do not know; there are a great many people dying this year who never died before."

To this we may add the story of an Irishman that *nearly* died, according to his own account, through the treatment of his physician, who, he declares, drenched him so with drugs during his illness, that he was *sick for a long time after he got well.*

THE BLACK CROOK vs. DEVIL'S AUCTION.

Rival Managers in the Leg-itimate Drama.

HOW CONTRACTS ARE MADE, AND HOW FULFILLED.

Notwithstanding the "Black Crook" managers have been before the courts several times in this city, and the days of this spectacle are numbered, we find it once more the subject before the Superior Court on the 17th inst. It appears that Manager De Pol became some three weeks in arrears for salaries due several of the dramatic performers and dancers in "The Devil's Auction," and Mlle Sohlke, a *premiere danseuse*, brought suit for "Go'den Branch," and, in her descent, caught at the "Black Crook," or, in other words, engaged to appear at Niblo's Garden in the play of the "Black Crook." By the evidence before the court we learn that in July last, in Paris, an agreement was entered into between Mr. De Pol and Miss Sohlke, that she would dance for him for a certain time in America, wherever he would want her to, for one thousand francs a month in gold; and she was not to leave him or contract any other engagement to dance without being liable to a penalty. She came here, and, as is well known, achieved a decided reputation as a dancer, but, as she claims, in consequence of Mr. De Pol's non-compliance with the contract, in not paying her what he ought, and because her reputation as an artist was suffering on account of his alleged insolvency and failure to carry on his theatre successfully, and of his ill-treatment of her, she left him. Then she went to Niblo's Theatre and asked for an engagement, which was refused her on the ground of her engagement with plaintiffs. Upon a second application by her, Messrs. Wheatley and Palmer, after advising with counsel, came to the conclusion that she was at liberty to engage, and concluded a contract with her. She was advertised to dance on the 16th inst., and, shortly before the performance commenced an injunction was served upon her, prohibiting her from dancing. The managers, desirous of keeping faith with the public, procured a modification of the injunction order, so as to allow her to dance there that evening. On the 17th, upon application of Mr. Joseph Shirley Hall, counsel for Miss Sohlke and the management at Niblo's, a further vacation of the order was granted so as to permit her to dance until the final decision of the case. The motion to vacate the injunction was argued on the 18th. Mr. De Pol, through his counsel, claimed to rely strictly upon his contract, which it was urged must be complied with. The contract is a very long document, written both in French and English, and contains some rather singular provisions. Miss Sohlke, according to this paper, promises "to do everything within her knowledge and ability to promote the interests" of the plaintiffs who rely upon her talent, merit, and good will which she "spontaneously agrees to devote" to their service. She is to devote her talent and art to them exclusively, "under penalty of such a fine" as they may see fit to impose. She, if it be to the interest of plaintiffs, "shall dance every night, without exception, whether in ballet, in single dances, variations, or dances requiring two, three, four or five performers; and shall furthermore play such mimic parts, academic postures and *tableaux*, as may be necessary to ensure the success of the piece;" and "she shall not refuse to take part in two performances on one and the same day, provided that the interests of the managers shall render the same necessary." She "further binds and pledges herself under penalty of such fine as the managers may determine to impose, to dress for her part in strict conformity to the lay figure indicated," so that "the managers may secure complete uniformity with the models set for each piece." She is required to attend such rehearsals each day as the managers may direct, "either on the stage or in a building other than a theatre," the time and place to be designated daily by a posted order of the day. She "shall dress in the room assigned to her by the managers, whether alone or in company with another artist, and she shall not be entitled to any kind of light other than that provided." The plaintiffs have the right to transfer her to any other theatrical company. In case of sickness she can draw her salary for only eight days. They reserve the right to extend the agreement beyond the eight months, on twenty days' notice to her "during such further time as the association may deem it to its advantage." She is required to furnish all minor articles of dress at her own expense, and she must not leave the city, "nor shall she frequent such entertainments and rural *fetes* as may tend to injure her health, causing disappointment by her non-appearance on the boards." "It is especially stipulated that under no pretext whatever will this association follow the pernicious custom of advancing money to artists on account of their salaries as practiced by certain other companies." The plaintiffs reserve to themselves the right at any time to use the name of any artist belonging to the company, for the purpose of giving benefit performances under her name, and the said artist shall not be entitled to make any claim or demand for extra compensation on this score. She "shall not refuse to wear masks, paint her face, and make up to suit the managers, in accordance with the *role* assumed," nor to descend through the stage by means of trap doors, nor to ascend by machinery, step ladders and wings; but she is "allowed to test beforehand the safety and solidity of the mechanical apparatus and appliances which she may have to make use of." A non-compliance by Mlle Sohlke with any of the conditions of the contract gives plaintiffs the right to rescind it "without the necessity of judicial intervention," and she can claim no damages or indemnity, though they may, if the necessity of rescission is caused by intentional fault on her part. The injunction was granted upon the sworn complaint of plaintiffs, reciting the execution of the contract, the production of the drama entitled "The Devil's Auction," in which Mlle Sohlke assumed a most conspicuous part; her refusal to dance in the piece since the 4th instant, and her engagement to dance in "The Black Crook." Counsel read from the complaint that "Mlle Sohlke was the principal *danseuse* at the theatre in the City of Paris, known as the 'International Theatre of the Palace of the Exposition," and that she had deservedly obtained in the principal cities of Europe a widely extended reputation for consummate skill, grace, and the execution of most difficult steps and movements in the art of dancing, and that the said Sohlke is very attractive in physical and personal charms."

On behalf of Mlle. Sohlke it was claimed that plaintiffs had violated the contract, in the first instance, and that in any event the Courts would not enjoin an artist from transferring herself from one place to another, and cases were cited to show that the parties were left to seek damages at law, among others that of Butler vs. Galletti, a dancing case in which it was held that even where a party promises not to dance at any other place, the Court would not either enforce the contract nor prohibit the party from dancing elsewhere, but left the person aggrieved to get his damages at law. In one case cited by Mr. Hall, in which the Chancellor was asked to compel a man to sing, he said that, in music, "a bird that can sing and won't sing, must be made to sing;" but not so in law. How can I say "open your mouth and sing! If I cannot make a man sing in one place, the law will not enjoin him from singing in another place." Affidavits were also introduced to show that Mr. De Pol was insolvent. Mr. Banvard testified that Mr. De Pol owed him $5 000 for rent, and that he had to eject him from his theatre. An affidavit of Mr. Palmer denied that he induced Mlle. Sohlke to leave Mr. De Pol, and stated that himself and Mr. Wheatley were indifferent as to whether or not she remained at their theatre, as regarded her quarrel with plaintiffs.

HOW TO TREAT A CHALLENGE.—The late eccentric mathematician, Professor Vince, of Kings College, Cambridge, being once engaged in a conversation with a gentleman who advocated dueling, is said to have thrown his adversary completely *hors du combat* by the following characteristic reply to his question—"But what could you do, sir, if a man told you to your face, 'You lie?'" "What could I do? Why, I wouldn't knock him down, but I'd tell him to prove it; 'Prove, sir, prove it,' I'd say. If he couldn't, he'd be the liar, and there I should have him; but if he did prove that I'd lied, I must e'en pocket the affront, and there I expect the matter would end."

THE RING.

OFF HAND MILL IN A ROOM

BETWEEN

HARRY HICKEN AND GEORGE SIZLER, FOR A PURSE.

28 ROUNDS SATISFIES GEORGE.

Another instance of the ease with which pugilistic controversies, when properly managed, can be brought to a satisfactory termination, notwithstanding the surveillance of the lynx-eyed authorities, was furnished by a little milling match which eventuated in a room in the heart of the great city of New York, on the afternoon of Tuesday last, 17th inst., the principal to which were Harry Hicken and George Sizler. The name of the former has of late been familiar to our readers in connection with sparring entertainments, at a number of which he has figured during his brief sojourn in the country, and his cleverness with the mittens, as there exhibited, naturally gave rise to a desire to see what he could do with the naked fists. To gratify this desire, a few of the prominent sports of the metropolis cast their eyes about for some likely young fellow for Harry to operate upon, and *vice versa*, and were not long in finding the object of their search in the person of Sizler, who wanted to replenish his exchequer, which had become rather dilapidated, and the young stranger being willing to endure a few hard knocks for the sake of raising a stake, an agreement was speedily entered into to fight at catch-weight for a purse within two weeks from signing articles.

Harry Hicken is a brother of Abe's, and came into this world of sin and sorrow at the town of Wolverhampton, Eng., April 21st, 1848, and is consequently not yet twenty years of age. In height he measures some 5ft. 5¾in., and on the day of battle pulled down the beam at 124 lbs., although when in condition his weight is 112lbs. He obtained considerable repute at home as a sparrer, his family seeming to take as naturally to boxing as a Bowery g'hal to pork and beans or raw oysters, but appeared within the squared circle but once prior to the present occasion, and that was with Joe Howley, at Green Lane, for a "fiver" a side, young Hicken chalking down his first triumph after a good fight, lasting two hours and thirty minutes, in which time fifty-seven rounds were fought, and both men severely punished. George Sizler, more generally known by the *sobriquet* of "Dutchy," is, as you may suppose from the latter appellation, of German parentage, and has for a long time made his abode of bliss amid the classic purlieus of the Fourth Ward, where his *ex frontis* is familiar as household words to every man, woman and child. He is about twenty five years of age, although he looked some years older, marks down the figures at 5 ft. 3in., and scaled, on the day, some 130 lbs., without his duds. Special occupation he has none, but does a little of everything, according to the amount of shekels to be realized, sported for a term the blue uniform of Uncle Sam's jolly tars, and is at present earning his porter-house steaks and hot rolls by the sweat of his attractive face in following the business of a vender of pergies and "sich like" edibles in Fulton Market. He never before put up his forks in the P. R., although he had on more than one occasion fought, bled and failed to "go did" in turns-up with fellows that did or didn't look like him among the pugnaciously-inclined dwellers in the ward where he hangs out his shingle. He has settled at a number of sparring exhibitions in the metropolis, and by practice has gained a fair knowledge of the science.

At the time of making the match Wednesday, Dec. 18th, was the day fixed upon, and, in order to throw dust in the visual organs of the members of the shield and locust brigade, it was announced that the battle ground would be within a certain distance of Gotham. The affair was the occasion of great hubbub among the fraternity—everybody was bent upon taking it in, sure, because it was so handy, and the probability is that had the programme, as announced, been carried out, the crowd to see it would have been so great that to elude the espionage of the blue-coated gentry would have been out of the question, and the affair been unceremoniously knocked into the middle of some other week, or not taken place at all. Observing how things were working, and determined to have it come off on the quiet, the projectors, having secured a suitable hall where they could go without suspicion, at the eleventh hour changed the fixture to one day earlier, and thus threw the club swingers, and all but a select circle of the *elite* of the sporting element, off the scent completely. An embargo was placed upon "gentlemen of the press" for obvious reasons, in addition to the fact that the chosen few admitted to the secret conclave embraced some whose fat sale might suffer should their names appear in print in connection with a finale display of this character—an unfortunate *denouement* which some penny-a-liners might thoughtlessly, and in a mistaken spirit of enterprise, bring about. Our reporter manager, however, to obtain the "tip" without difficulty, and, by dint of some tall pedal locomotion, arrived at the scene of action just in the nick of time—the only representative of the lever which moulds public opinion among the select coterie, numbering about one hundred and twenty in all, who had paid the heavy fee asked for admission.

The hall selected was located in the upper story of the building, and was well adapted to the purpose, being surrounded with seats in one portion, leaving a space of some thirty-five feet square for the field of battle. The roughs having been gathered in and the spectators disposed themselves in comfortable positions, the men were brought up stairs warmly wrapped up, for the atmosphere was unpleasantly chilly. The work of choosing referee and umpire was speedily finished, and the men proceeded to doff their toggery, Hicken having won the toss for corners, which, however, didn't make a shadow of a difference. In the meantime the Master of Ceremonies took occasion to enjoin upon those present the necessity of maintaining the utmost silence, and refraining from any boisterous demonstration, concluding with the expression of a fixed resolve to "obliterate" any refractory cuss who attempted to "make troubles." Harry had for esquires his brother Abe and Patsy Sheppard, while Butt Riley and Mike Costello looked after the interests of "Dutchy." Nothing being wanting, at a few minutes past one o'clock P. M. the men advanced to the centre, crossed daddles after the fashion, shook hands and stepped back to commence

THE FIGHT.

Round 1. There was a vast difference in the appearance of the men as they faced each other, Hicken being of a slender, wiry build, not overburdened with muscle, light complexion, with skin fair and tender-looking as that of a young girl, while Dutchy was stoutly built, of dark complexion, muscular arms and body, and, as a *connoisseur*, at our elbow remarked, "big enough to eat Harry up." There was a contrast in style, too, in favor of the lad from Albion, who held his hands rather low, though still artistic, and stepped lightly in and out with an easy, graceful motion, while George, although keeping his form well advanced and his right guard well up, assumed a cramped, uneasy attitude. They got quickly to work, Hicken leading with the left, which Dutchy cleverly avoided, and retaliated with a light one on the chin, falling short in an attempt to follow with the left and catching it on the neck. Dutchy was again foiled in an essay at the head, napping for his pains a light return on the right cheek, for which he got hunk by a one, two on the body and neck. Sparring in order for a few moments, Sizler resuming with a punch on the mouth, and Hicken responding with a neat left-hander on the eye, when Dutchy dashed to close quarters, Hicken on the retreat, and George following after, both using right and left effectively until a close was had, and in a severe struggle for the fall the Briton was uppermost.

2. Both eager, commenced operations at once, Hicken again taking the initiative with a shot on the forehead, which Dutchy repaid by a tap on the shoulder, and then, bent on forcing matters, rushed in, when they had it ding, dong, with both hands, George gaining first blood by a smack on the facial promontory, and in the wrestle had the upper hands.

3. Hicken, warmed up thoroughly, offered his left the moment they toed the mark, interesting hobby on the mouth, avoided the return, and again planted his favorite mawley on the nose. The fishmonger was more successful in a second essay with his larboard bunch, which found a resting place on his opponent's left eye. A close, wrestle, and Harry down. George's friends jubilant, and offering 100 to 80.

4. The fast fighting in the previous round caused each to have bellows to mend when they answered the call, and neither appeared eager to commence. The fair-haired youth finally tried his left at the body, but was short and caught a rasper on the left cheek, escaped a second visitation, and rapped Dutchy on the eye. The latter sent his right on the mouth, and was beautifully countered on the nasal organ. Hicken now got home twice on the mouth, cleverly stopping the left-hander which his antagonist sandwiched in between. After a little sparring Sizler essayed with his left, but failed to get home, Hicken pasting him hotly on the eye, but the fenton, not to be denied, dashed after Harry, who, retreating, pouliced him thrice in the face for the one he received on the body, George finally going down, mainly from the force of his rush.

5. Dutchy upanked Hicken on the body, was out of distance in a second attempt, and napped a stinger on the eye, which Sizler didn't fancy and to get even rushed to infighting, inaugurating a spirited rally, ending in a prolonged struggle, the pair falling over a bench and rolling to the floor with the Englishman undermost.

6. The New Yorker, who came up puffing like a porpoise, was out to lead off, getting home heavily on the ribs and receiving on the left eye, a close, tussle, and a fall over the bench, in which the Eastsider came to grief.

7. Dutchy again opened the ball, but failed to land, and caught a sharp remarker on the mouth, and another splendid clean hit on the snuff-box, which made George wince, and he didn't get satisfaction by an attempt with his left, although he sent home a pasty one on the jaw in return for another ugly sounding thump on the mouth. In the struggle Hicken was thrown, the sharp corner of a bench coming into contact with the small of his back.

8. Sizler evaded a vicious offer, met with the same luck in attempting to return, and was handed a stinger on the mouth which cut the under lip and distilled the claret. Closed immediately and Hicken was thrown cleverly.

9. George, elated by the applause received in the last round, began work at once by delivering his left at the right side of the head, Harry responding on the nose, and a second attempt passing over his opponent's shoulder. Dutchy now effected a landing on the mouth and received on the nose and ribs, when they clinched and in the struggle Harry was twisted off his pins.

10. Hicken, after a few moments' sparring for wind, dropped his favorite duke on the right optic, receiving on the neck, and complimenting George with another on the mazzard, still another on the eye, and, jumping to one side, as the other, after delivering on the mouth, dashed in like a mad bull, Sizler came full against the wall, head first, with a fearful crash and fell.

11. Dutchy appeared somewhat shaken by the concussion which floored him in the previous bout, but offered at once with his left, which was stopped, but he managed to get in his right heavily on the nose and mouth. Hicken retaliated with three clear hits on the face with out a return, when Dutchy rushed to a close, and Harry, in breaking ground, slipped and fell.

12 to 21. These rounds were short and similar in character. A few exchanges of a light nature, all in favor of the Wolverhampton youth, Dutchy either going down of his own accord or being thrown every round. On the 15th round a claim of foul was made by Riley, because Hicken had struck George while on his knees, but the referee decided that the blow was on its way when he dropped and didn't allow the appeal.

22. The lad from the market, urged on by the encouraging remarks of his friends, now made some sort of an attempt to turn the tables on his opponent, commencing by investing on the body, and then rushing to close, when some rapid and severe fibbing was terminated by Hicken being placed horizontal.

23 to 28 and last. These were a trifle better than the prior dozen or so, but it was evident to all that the fish merchant was rapidly getting a bellyful of such anatomy-damaging amusement, and, barring a foul, must soon give up the ship, not because he didn't possess the power to continue, but because he was sick of the job. In the 24th round another claim of foul was made by Dutchy's seconds, but the referee disallowed it, determined that he who could stand it the longest should win. Sizler was dashed to the ground in every round until the 28th, when a stinging upper cut on the top of several faces sent him down and took all the fight out of him, his seconds being unable to get him to face the music again, although he was just as strong as at the commencement, and, barring a slight cut on his lip, exhibited no signs of having been fighting. Mickey then elevated the signal of defeat, after they had been at it an hour and fifteen minutes, according to the calling of the referee, who ought to know, although others think he got a trifle ahead of time, and fixed it at about fifty-five minutes.

The winner and loser, after being respectively congratulated and cadgered by those present, donned their togs, and with a number of others took their departure, although the majority remained and whiled away several hours in a sociable fashion, regardless of a possible descent by the Charlies, several of whose cast suspicious glances at the unusual egress of sports. Hicken received $200, and Dutchy half that sum, a reasonable portion going into the pockets of their seconds. It is unnecessary to comment upon the affair—let a perusal of the rounds suffice. Dutchy might have made a better fight had he been in trim, but certain it is that he was never cut out for a pugilist, and it ain't likely he will take a hack again at that business. Hicken equaled the expectations of his friends, and proved himself quick to perceive and take advantage of an opening, possessing coolness and judgment, and being as clever in the ring as with the gloves.

EDWARD O'BALDWIN AND JACK HICKS.

SKETCHES OF THE MEN.

As promised last week, we herewith present biographical sketches of the above newly arrived pugilists, which were crowded out of our last issue:—

EDWARD O'BALDWIN was born at Lismore, County Waterford, Ireland, in January, 1840, stands 5ft. 7in. in his stockings, and when in proper fix lowers the beam at about 14st 7lb. He continued to reside in his native town, kissing the "gurrels" and whacking the boys, until he had attained his nineteenth year, when he shook the bog from his feet for the nonce, and journeyed to Birmingham, England. Having the bump of combativeness pretty largely developed in his cranium—which ain't anything surprising considering the place of his nativity—he naturally fell into the society of the boxing element, and became well known to all the sporters of the great iron manufacturing district as "Tom Cooper's Big 'Un," his immense height causing him to be looked upon as a future candidate for championic honors. Early in the spring of '63 he took a jaunt to the English metropolis, where Nat Langham gave him a trial, with a view to matching him against Andy Marsden, another big novice, whose powers his friends desired to test ere they risked their bank notes upon him in a match for the championship. The result evidenced that his education with the gloves was as yet far from approaching perfection and therefore didn't satisfy Ould Nat, who accordingly gave Ned the cirty shake. The ambitious Lismore man now wended his way to Manchester, but didn't remain there but a short time, as he failed to show to advantage in a set-to with a man much his inferior in bulk. O'Baldwin now returned to his old quarters at Birmingham, where, by assiduous practice he considerably improved himself, and performed so satisfactorily in a trial which Cooper shortly afterward gave him, that the latter gave Ned a chance to distinguish himself by matching him against Marsden, of Nottingham, who is 6ft 1½ inches in height, for £50 a side, Bob Travers and some Nottingham friends finding the money for Andy. They fought in the London District, Oct. 21st, 1863, when Ned appeared nervous and bewildered from the start, and was defeated in just three rounds, lasting 3½ minutes, greatly to the surprise of Cooper and Joe Goss, the latter of whom was one of his seconds, and his performance was so bad that those who had been his best friends cut him dead, excepting Cooper, who would have taken him back to Birmingham had Ned been willing to go, which he wasn't, because of the wrong impression given by his maiden essay. He was resolved to prove the falsity of the damaging reports concerning him ere he returned to the friends who had treated him so kindly before.

Jesse Hatton now took O'Baldwin in charge, and the latter, unmindful of the undeserved taunts thrown out to him by great and small, furnishing an instance of wonderful forbearance, steadily applied himself to the acquirement of science and the development of muscle until the fall of '64, when he was matched with George Iles, another big 'un who had gained considerable reputation as a fighter by his game battle of two hours and eight minutes with Joe Wormald. The betting, owing to the previous performance of the Irishman, ruled at 6 to 4 on Iles, and little done at that figure. They fought in two rings, at Weston-on-Thames, and down the river, February 19th, 1865, for £50 a side. Many expected the first few hard knocks to decide the affair, but they were destined to be agreeably disappointed, for O'Baldwin showed himself to be wonderfully clever for a big 'un, capable of enduring any amount of punishment, and handsomely polished off his opponent, without a scratch himself, in just three rounds, lasting seven minutes in the first ring, and fifty in the second, fighting being the word from the call of time. This proved the giant to be composed of better material than he was thought to consist of and gained for him universal respect, as well as caused those who had been free with their insults before to keep a civil tongue in their heads either in or out of his presence. It was now a fixed fact that O'Baldwin would challenge for the belt when its possession was decided by the fight then on the docket between Mace and Goss. Everybody, taking into consideration Ned's cleverness with his hands, his qualities as a pugilist, and his tremendous proportions, felt convinced that no man then before the public could stand long before him, and the press predicted for him a walk-over for the championship.

Anxious to have another shy at his old opponent, O'Baldwin shortly afterwards issued a challenge to fight Marsden. The latter didn't seem to fancy the idea however, and some time passed before he came to terms, he deferring the matter upon different excuses from time to time, reducing his avoirdupois the while, and insisting that his prior triumph was no fluke. Finally a match was made for £100 a side, and the fight took place half way between Nottingham and London, September 25, 1866. The Londoners were on this occasion outnumbered by the Midland County representatives, but O'Baldwin made such an example of Marsden in 11 rounds and 16 minutes, that the latter's adherents broke into the ring after having pelted Ned with stones and missiles of every description. The money was afterwards awarded to O'Baldwin on the ground that Marsden was virtually defeated when the ring was broken into by his own party. The Giant on this occasion wiped off every slur that could previously, by any possibility, have been attributed to him, literally beating his man down round after round. His next appearance was in a match with Jem Mace's man—Joe Goss being first named and afterward Joe Wormald, owing to Goss' apprehension—for £200 a side and the belt, when O'Baldwin, as he anticipated, could be the case from the first, was bamboozled out of the money, although he had proceeded to Farnborough, where he understood the affair was to take place, while Wormald was not within fifty miles of that place. Ned had been kept waiting at one of the railway arches in London, through, it is generally believed, a collision between Nat Langham, who had charge of the Giant, and the opposing parties, until long after the train had left the depot, when fearful of some trickery, he proceeded to Farnborough on his own hook. Against all precedent and in direct violation of the rules of the ring, the ref-ree gave his decision in favor of Wormald, although no ring had been formed and the latter had not gone through the requisite ceremony of entering the same, which was necessary in order to enable him to claim. It was plain that the whole thing was cut and dried from the commencement, for if any one was entitled to the money, O'Baldwin was the man, as he was on the ground that had been named at the time appointed, the knowledge of which fact was probably the reason that the train on board of which were Wormald and officials, didn't go within many miles of that place. Notwithstanding this swindle O'Baldwin allowed himself to be persuaded that he would obtain a fair show "the next time," and, accordingly, he issued no her challenge, which was taken up by Mace, and a match made for £100 a side and the championship. This partook of the character of the previous swindling operation, it being evident that Mace never intended fighting the Giant, but he was "in" with those in authority, and, though he placed himself exactly where the articles stipulated he should not, and courted the attentions of the police, by whom he was arrested, after a "tremendous struggle," in which nobody was hurt, the decision given at the office of big *Bell* was that each man should receive his share of the stakes. O'Baldwin obeyed orders to the letter, kept out of the way, and should, by right, have had the whole amount of the stakes and the belt to boot. Ned afterward off-red to fight Mace in France and pay his expenses to go there, but Jem, who had been required to enter into his own recognizance of £300 and find two sureties of £150 each to keep the peace for a twelvemonth, said that this would interfere with his ball, but promised to come to America and fight him. O'Baldwin had now determined to take a trip to the States, and as soon as he had announced such intention the Staleybridge Infant and Joe Wormald rushed into print, again expressing their willingness to meet the Giant, but fixing the time so far ahead that it didn't suit the latter's arrangements, although he did all he could to get on a match before his departure. He certainly acted wisely in refusing to make another match for the belt, which there isn't an earthly chance of his ever receiving, particularly while it remains in the custody of *Bell's Life*. Although exceedingly tall, O'Baldwin is well proportioned, having a deep, wide chest, massive shoulders, good strong loins, long and well developed arms, and sturdily built under-pinnings, upon which he moves about amazingly spry for one so powerfully framed. In appearance he is unmistakably of Milesian birth, and in manner he is quiet, polite, obliging and unobtrusive, and being naturally of a jovial disposition he is calculated to make friends wherever he goes.

JACK HICKS first opened his infantile orbs upon the manifold vanities and deformities of this goodly world, at Brumley, London, March 23d, 1850, reaches an altitude of 5ft 6¼, without his Wellingtons, and in his first few battles weighed 120lbs, but has filled out considerably since,

BILLIARDS.

MATCH FOR $500 BETWEEN DION AND DANIELS.

DION THE WINNER.

The match arranged between Cyrille Dion, the left-handed expert, who has been accorded the rank of Champion of the Canadas, and Edward Daniels, Champion in fact of Massachusetts, which match resulted from a challenge issued five weeks since to all State and provincial champions, past or present, was played at Bumstead Hall, Winter street, Boston, on the night of the 18th inst. As had been anticipated, the event drew together an assemblage second in size only to that which marked the billiard tournament in the same place in March, 1866. The game was one thousand points up, $250 a side, on a full-sized four-pocket table, and played with 2¼ balls, push shots barred. William Goldthwaite, of this city, officiated as umpire for Dion, and Wm. Marshall for Daniels. Joseph Sylvan, of Lynn, acted as referee, and F. A. Rogers as marker. The game was called at forty minutes past past seven o'clock, Dion winning the lead and choice of balls and giving Daniels the first shots, which resulted in a zero. Dion did better by forty-two tallies. Daniels seemed partial to blanks, as he scored "just nothing" on ten innings out of seventeen, and on the seven others made a beggarly total of 60, in a total of seventeen innings, to 176 for Dion. The first call was for Dion, the game having been in progression but half an hour, when the score stood 134 to 11 for Daniels—six innings played. No marked play was observable until the thirty-third innings, when Dion made a run of 101, which elicited prolonged applause. Daniels offset these figures by a run of 94, and it was warmly acknowledged by his friends, who seemed to be present in large numbers. The score then gave Dion 425 and a lead of 159. Daniels' first 100 was scored at the close of his twenty-fourth innings, his largest run being 21. Safeties were indulged in by both parties, but Dion seemed particularly partial to that kind of play. The forty-fourth innings was the next that increased the interest in the game, at the close of which Dion had the first half of the game, which was but one hour and twenty minutes old, Daniels being 195 behind. The game for the next nine innings was decidedly "dry." Fifty-three had been played, two hours were consumed, and the score stood 711 for Dion, 418 for Daniels, making a lead on Daniels of 293. By Dion's oft-repeated play of safety by pocketing his ball, Daniels was left to labor with but the two reds. It seemed to be up-hill work for him, and, if Daniels did not materially lessen the gap, he exhibited some splendid playing. An intermission of ten minutes having been taken at the close of the 63d innings, Daniels again resumed play, but failed to count. Both players jogged along leisurely, and scored small figures. Dion made some handsome five shots on a "draw," and for the nine innings next preceding the 78th (at the close of which Dion led Daniels 301 points), he was the occasion of the greater portion of the applause. On the 69th, Daniels, by good play, made a small run, stopping up on a bank shot. Dion increased the gap by ten points, ceasing play because of a foul. In the next four innings Daniels crawled up a little, making 80 to Dion's 9. The next innings, the 74th, gave Dion 924 to 661 for Daniels. The interest in the game was on the increase. Daniels let himself out, and reduced the lead to 200 points; but it was too late. Dion had the game, and on the 85th innings made his 1,000th tally, and leading Daniels 230 points. Daniels' play during the last twenty innings was particularly excellent, and, although his friends conceded his defeat, it was quite refreshing to witness the "science" of the Massachusetts champion. Dion found half of his success, it is alleged, in the "safety" privilege which he so frequently embraced. Below are the score and summary:—

DANIELS.			DION.			DANIELS.			DION.		
Shot.	*Count.*	*Total.*	*Count.*	*Total.*		*Shot.*	*Count.*	*Total.*	*Count.*	*Total.*	
1	0	0	42	42		44	0	347	49	542	
2	0	0	22	64		45	3	350	6	548	
3	0	0	†16	80		46	10	360	47	595	
4	11	11	3	83		47	0	360	28	623	
5	10	11	3	86		48	12	372	3	626	
6	*0	11	48	134		49	0	372	11	637	
7	0	11	19	143		50	6	378	*6	643	
8	6	17	16	159		51	17	395	33	676	
9	†11	28	2	161		52	9	404	27	698	
10	0	28	0	161		53	14	418	13	711	
11	0	28	3	164		54	0	418	2	713	
12	13	41	0	164		55	6	424	0	713	
13	8	49	0	164		†6	5	429	0	713	
14	0	49	3	167		57	0	429	4	7 7	
15	6	55	0	167		58	0	470	0	717	
16	5	60	2	169		59	*0	479	6	723	
17	0	60	6	175		60	4	483	3	726	
18	121	81	6	181		61	6	489	26	752	
19	4	85	42	183		62	39	478	0	752	
20	3	88	2	185		63	5	483	2	754	
21	0	88	4	189		64	9	492	48	802	
22	5	93	*0	189		65	3	495	10	802	
23	1	94	14	203		66	20	515	40	842	
24	6	100	2	205		67	7	522	16	858	
25	16	116	15	220		68	35	557	0	858	
26	20	116	3	223		69	20	577	29	887	
27	0	116	28	251		70	5	582	0	887	
28	0	116	38	289		71	49	631	0	887	
29	41	157	2	291		72	12	643	6	893	
30	0	157	0	291		73	14	657	3	896	
31	0	157	†24	315		74	4	661	28	924	
32	12	169	9	324		75	2	663	6	930	
33	12	172	101	425		76	44	707	12	942	
34	2	266	2	427		77	13	710	3	945	
35	*0	266	1	428		78	40	750	18	953	
36	5	271	15	433		79	6	756	2	955	
37	3	274	2	435		80	2	758	17	972	
38	3	277	9	444		81	2	760	3	975	
39	29	306	9	453		82	8	768	2	977	
40	23	329	35	488		83	*0	768	4	981	
41	†0	329	2	490		84	0	768	14	995	
42	*18	347	1	491		85	2	770	6	1001	
43	0	347	2	493							

*Lost one; †lost two; ‡lost three.

SUMMARY.—Bumstead Hall, Boston, Dec. 18.—Match for $250 a side, 1,000 points up, push shot barred, between E. Daniels and Cyrille Dion. Points scored: Dion, 1,001; Daniels, 770. Average—Dion, 11⅚; Daniels, 9 5-85. Largest runs—Dion, 42, 33, 30, 49, 47, 33, 48, 40. Daniels—21, 41, 94, 29 29, 35, 49, 44, 40. Time of game—Three hours.

DION AND MCDEVITT'S CONTEST.

THE GAME ANALYZED BY AN EXPERT.

As being the ideas of a player whose experience in everything appertaining to billiard matches commands for his opinions great weight, we reprint from Michael Phelan's *Billiard Cue* the following with regard to the late match between Dion and McDevitt:—

McDevitt played much better around the table, and Dion no worse, than had been expected. McDevitt also played with much better judgment than in his previous matches, with much more care, more deliberately, and with far more regard for safety. Safety was, indeed, the salient feature of the contest, McDevitt devoting 43 innings to it, and Dion 40. Out of the "string," McDevitt had to play *twenty-two* times, and Dion *twenty-four*, the cue being used, as there was no muse in the hall. Ordinarily, a dozen "strings" in a game of 1,500 points is a fair number, while in no match of that length between first class players, save the last two in which Dion and McDevitt figured, have the deliberate plays for safety numbered in the aggregate more than twenty-five or thirty. In this match they amounted to *eighty-three*. In other words, more than one third of the innings were frittered away in strategic manœuvres, and more than one-half were given over to strategy and "banking" combined. While, therefore, it is not to be marveled at that the game lasted five hours, it is surprising that the winner should have averaged as much as thirteen and one-sixth.

It will be observed that McDevitt went ahead with a run of 113; but on the 12th innings he left the balls all in a heap for Dion, who handsomely scored 290 therefrom, and obtained a commanding lead. McDevitt also left the balls well together for Dion on the 97th, 31st, 77th, 94th and 109th innings, off which he respectively scored 86, 20, 157, 21 and 110. On the other hand, Dion left McDevitt the two reds on the 93d innings, off of which, with the subsequent assistance of the white, he scored 152. Thus it will be seen that Dion scored 684 points from McDevitt's leavings, against which the latter was enabled to place but 152. McDevitt's ball froze three times when he had the others together, and on another occasion he was forced to play a *mass*, by which he counted. On the other hand, no such ill fortune attended Dion. As regards pockets off counts, Dion had the worst of it, his ball going in eleven times, and McDevitt's seven; but this was offset by Dion making eight scratches to McDevitt's one. Of doubtful "scratches," or kisses into a count, Dion had one, which gave him 2 points, and McDevitt two, which respectively gave him 7 and 4; while Dion was twice kissed out of a count, and McDevitt thrice. In the way of forfeitures, McDevitt lost 83 points, and Dion 80. McDevitt led up to the 12th innings, and obtained the lead again on the 105th. Dion was furthest behind on the 11th innings, when McDevitt's majority was 123, and most ahead on the 40th, when McDevitt's majority was 286. Accounts agree that McDevitt, who played very slowly and cautiously, exhibited surprising *sang froid*, even laughing while defeat stared him in the face, was most unfortunate throughout, the balls breaking badly for him, as his runs would seem to indicate. But it must also be acknowledged that Dion, if positively fortunate in some respects, and negatively so in others by reason of his opponent's ill luck, was most unfortunate in taking so deeply to heart an adverse decision rendered in the 42d innings, inasmuch as McDevitt was not benefitted more than five or six points by it, and in all probability Dion would have scored but a few, if any points, had he been allowed to play. Dion's friends, we understand, assert that this decision was the cause of his defeat, as, so irritated was he by it, that in forty-three innings thereafter he scored double figures but six times, viz:—67, 12, 20, 157, 39, and 25, while McDevitt scored them nine times—35, 16, 181, 11, 24, 56, 21, 11 and 43. Perhaps this was the cause of his defeat, although McDevitt's gain in these forty-six innings was but forty points. What runs Dion would have made had the decision been otherwise we are not prepared to say; but his friends are of the opinion that he would have won the game by a large majority. The referee did not see the "foul" which Dion claimed, and of course could not decide in his favor. As the foul was most palpable to Dion (McDevitt, after he had counted, struck another ball with the butt of his cue), it was certainly the champion's misfortune that it was not as manifest to the referee.

CHAMPIONSHIP OF SYRACUSE.—Recently they have been holding a tournament in Syracuse, N. Y., the object of which was to determine the championship of that flourishing city; and on the 9th inst., the deciding game was played by Messrs. Thomas Quill and William B. Isbell, the former gentleman winning by 111 points in 500. The defeated aspirant having challenged his conqueror, Quill quilled the following by way of acceptance:—

SYRACUSE, Dec. 13th, 1867.

MR. W. B. ISBELL.—In reply to your challenge for the amateur champion billiard cue of Syracuse, I do hereby accept said challenge. Game to be played at the Kirk Block billiard room.

I am respectfully yours, THOMAS QUILL.

CHAMPIONSHIP OF READING, PA.—The ingenious, useful, and fascinating pastime of playing billiards having lately become very popular in the populous town of Reading, on the 13th inst. there was a match at the "Opera Divan" for the championship of that necessarily well-informed ilk. The contestants were named respectively Becker and Benson. Becker was defeated, the scores being 500 to 474, whereupon Benson was presented with an elegant cue.

TESTIMONIAL TO DION.—On the 16th inst., several gentlemen in Montreal, headed by the Mayor of that city, tendered Joseph Dion a complimentary dinner, at which he was presented with an elegant *solitaire* diamond ring and a massive gold watch-chain, the combined value of which gifts is five hundred dollars in gold. In thanking the company for the honor done him in drinking his health, Dion expressed his gratitude for the manifestation of their esteem in the bestowal of the ring and chain as a mark of their confidence. He intended, if possible, to win the champion cue back again for the sake of the New Dominion.

TOURNAMENT IN UTICA.—Henry Griffin, of Utica, is making arrangements for the holding of a tournament at his hall in that city, the prizes which he purposes being a cue valued at $100, and $70, $50 and $25 in money. The tournament will be open to all players in this State, except those in this city. Among those expected to compete are Owens, of Syracuse; Salisbury, of Albany; Fitch, of Troy; Valentine, of Gloversville; Kimball, of Rochester, and Wright, of Oswego. The games are to be 500 points, caroms, and the tourney will be inaugurated during the first week in January.

COON'S CHALLENGE.—John W. Coon, of Chicago, it is supposed, has withdrawn his challenge to the holder of the champion cue of America. On Saturday, the 14th inst., he telegraphed that his money was then *en route* to the stakeholders in this city, but not a cent has yet reached them. This leaves the field to Foster and Dion, the former of whom will have to play McDevitt in Chicago, where the latter intends to take up his residence, and where the champion cue now is, having been forwarded on the 14th inst. in charge of Thomas Foley, ex-champion of Illinois.

ELEPHANTINE RUNS NOWHERE.—A LEVIATHAN AVERAGE.—A gentleman of this city writes us, as a fact, says the *Billiard Cue*, which he will verify, that recently he made an average of 5,001 points, while playing on a second-sized carom table. What is more astounding even than the average, the amateur did not once play the *push* shot. And—he used little or no chalk.

EXHIBITION BY PHELAN, MCDEVITT, AND OTHERS.—An exhibition is announced for Thursday evening of this week, at which it is expected the champion, along with Phelan, Isidore, and other expert cueists, will manipulate the balls. The exhibition is to take place at the Eclectic Billiard Room, Third avenue.

A CHANCE FOR PHILADELPHIA.—The friends of Cyrille Dion are willing to back him against Robert T. Ryall, of the Continental Hotel, Philadelphia, for $250 a side. The game to be the same as that played by Cyrille and Daniels. This is a match worth making.

EXHIBITION IN SAVANNAH, GA.—On the 12th inst., a new room was opened on Bryan street, near Ball, Savannah, which event was signalized by a dashing contest between Messrs. Butler and Clere. Butler had the best of it, as butlers usually have, and won by 49 points. His best run was 190.

TOURNAMENT IN MONTREAL.—The brothers Dion intend getting up a tournament in Montreal, open to all amateurs in that city. The games to be 250 points, and played on a full-sized four pocket table. The prizes have not yet been decided on.

NOT FOR A PURSE.—It appears that the recent game of 1,500 points, between John W. Coon and John McDevitt, and which the latter won, was simply for fun and not, as was reported at the time, for a purse of $250.

BALL PLAY.

THE AMENDED RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR 1868.

We give this week the new rules adopted by the National Association. We omit all rules that have not been altered or amended:—

RULE FIRST.—THE BALL, BAT, AND BASES.

SEC. 1. The ball must weigh not less than five nor more than five and one quarter ounces avoirdupois. It must measure not less than nine and one quarter nor more than nine and one half inches in circumference. It must be composed of India rubber and yarn, and covered with leather, and in all match games shall be furnished by the challenging club, and become the property of the winning club as a trophy of victory.

SEC. 2. The bat must be round, and must not exceed two and a half inches in diameter in the thickest part. It must be made of wood, and shall not exceed forty inches in length.

RULE SECOND.—THE PITCHING DEPARTMENT.

SEC. 1. The pitcher's position shall be designated by two lines, two yards in length, drawn at right angles to the line from home to the second base, having their centres upon that line at two fixed iron plates, placed at points fifteen and sixteen and one third yards distant from the home base. The pitcher must stand within these lines, and must deliver the ball as near as possible over the centre of the home base, and fairly for the striker.

SEC. 2. No player shall be put out on any hit ball on which a balk or a ball has been called, and neither shall a strike or a foul ball be called, or a base run, on such a hit ball. But bases can be taken on third called balls, and on "balked" balls, in accordance with Section 2 of Rule Second.

RULE THIRD.—THE BATTING DEPARTMENT.

SEC. 1. The striker, when about to strike the ball, must stand astride of a line drawn through the centre of the home base, not exceeding three feet from either side thereof, and parallel with the front line of the pitcher's position.

SEC. 2. The striker must not take any backward step when striking at the ball. The penalty for an infringement of this rule shall be the calling of one strike; and when three such strikes have been called, the striker shall be declared out. If a ball on which such a strike is called be hit and caught, either fair or foul, the striker shall be declared out. No base shall be run on any such called strike, and neither shall the base runner be put out in returning to the base in such a case. As soon as the striker has struck a fair ball he shall be considered a player running the bases.

SEC. 3. Players must strike in regular rotation, and, after the first innings is played, the turn commences with the player who stands on the list next to the one who was the third player out.

SEC. 4. Should a striker stand at the bat without striking at fair balls, for the apparent purpose of delaying the game, or of giving advantage to a player, the umpire, after warning him, shall call one strike; and if he persists in such action, two and three strikes. When three strikes are called, and the ball be caught, either before touching the ground or upon the first bound, the striker shall be declared out, provided the balls struck at are not those on which balls or balks have been called, or not those struck at for the purpose of wilfully striking out. If three balls are struck at and missed, and the last one is not caught, either flying or upon the first bound, the striker must attempt to make his run, and he can be put out on the bases in the same manner as if he had struck a ball.

SEC. 5. The striker is out if a foul ball is caught, either before touching the ground or upon the first bound; or if a fair ball is struck, and the ball be held before touching the ground; or if a fair ball is struck, and the ball be held by an adversary on first base before the striker touches that base.

RULE FOURTH.—RUNNING THE BASES.

SEC. 2. No run or base can be made upon a foul ball. Such a ball shall be considered dead, and not in play, until it shall first have been settled in the hands of the pitcher. In such cases players running bases shall return to them, and may be put out in so returning, in the same manner as when running to first base. Neither can a run or base be made when a fair ball has been caught without having touched the ground; but such a ball shall be considered alive and in play. In such cases also players running bases shall return to them, and may be put out in returning, in the same manner as when running to first base; but players, when balls are so caught, may run their bases immediately after the ball has been settled in the hands of the player catching it.

SEC 4. When a balk is made by the pitcher, every player running the bases is entitled to one base, without being put out.

SEC. 5. A player making the home base shall be entitled to score one run.

SEC. 6. If two hands are already out, no player running home at the time the ball is struck can make a run to count in the score of the game if the striker of it is put out.

RULE FIFTH.—THE GAME.

SEC. 2. In playing all matches, nine players from each club shall constitute a full field; and they shall be members of the club which they represent. They also must not have been members of any other club, either in or out of the National Association, for thirty days immediately prior to the match. Positions of players and choice of innings shall be determined by captains previously appointed for that purpose by the respective clubs. Every player taking part in a regular match game, no matter how many innings shall have been played, shall be, in the meaning of this section of the rules, considered a member of the club he plays with.

SEC. 3. When a club sends a challenge to play a first nine match game of base ball, and the same is accepted, the first game shall be played upon the grounds of the challenging club, within fifteen (15) days from the acceptance of the challenge; the second game shall be played upon the grounds of the challenged club within fifteen (15) days thereafter; and if a third game be necessary it shall be played upon the grounds to be mutually agreed upon, within fifteen (15) days from the date of the second game: *provided* that the above arrangement may be varied by mutual consent. And when a first nine match game is to be played, the contestants shall present on the field their recognized first nines as far as practicable.

SEC. 6. No player, not in the nine taking their positions on the field in the third innings of a game, shall be substituted for a player, except for reason of illness or injury.

SEC. 7. No match game shall be commenced when rain is falling; and neither shall any such game be continued after rain has fallen for five minutes. No match game shall be postponed unless by the mutual consent of the contesting clubs.

SEC 8. Every match shall be decided by the best two games out of three, nor is a single game shall be mutually agreed upon by the contesting clubs; and all matches shall terminate before the close of the season.

SEC. 9. No person who shall be in arrears to any other club, or shall at any time receive compensation for his services as a player, shall be competent to play in any match. No players who play base ball for money shall take part in any match game; and any club giving any compensation to a player, or having, to their knowledge, a player in their nine playing in a match for compensation, shall be debarred from membership in the National Association; and they shall not be considered by any club belonging to this Association as a proper club to engage in a match with; and should any club so engage with them, they shall forfeit membership.

RULE SIXTH.—MISCELLANEOUS.

SEC. 2. Any player who shall intentionally prevent an adversary from catching or fielding the ball shall be declared out; or if any player be prevented from making a base by the intentional obstruction of an adversary, he shall be entitled to that base, and shall not be declared out even if touched with the ball.

SEC. 3. If a fair ball be held by a player before touching the ground, after rebounding from the hands or person of a player, it shall be considered a fair catch. And if a foul ball be similarly held after touching the ground but once, it shall be considered a fair catch.

SEC 6. The captains of each nine shall alone be allowed to appeal for the reversal of a decision of the umpire.

SEC. 7. No base can be run or player be put out on a dead ball.

RULE SEVENTH.—DUTIES OF THE UMPIRE.

SEC. 2. The umpire in any match shall determine when play shall be suspended; and, if the game cannot be fairly concluded, it shall be decided by the last equal innings, provided five innings have been played; and the party having the greatest number of runs shall be declared the winner.

SEC. 3. When the umpire calls "play," the game must at once be proceeded with; and the party failing to take their appointed position in the game within five minutes thereafter shall forfeit the game. When the umpire calls "time," play shall be suspended until he calls "play" again.

SEC. 4. When the umpire "calls" a game, it shall end; but when he merely suspends play for any stated period, it may be resumed at the point at which it was suspended, provided such suspension does not extend beyond the day of the match.

SEC. 5. No decision given by the umpire shall be reversed upon the testimony of any player; and no decision whatever shall be reversed except for a palpable infringement of the rules, and then only on an appeal by the captain.

BALL TOSSING IN GEORGIA.—On the 12th inst., the Gate City Club, of Atlanta, Ga., met the Dixie Club, of Franklin University, Athens, and conquered them easily by a tally of 24 to 14.

LIVE OAK, OF ALBANY,

THE CHAMPION JUNIORS OF THE STATE.

This club was organized Nov. 14, 1861, and, up to the present date, present such a record as will compare with any club in the country, as regards success. Since their organization they have played 221 matches, being successful in 209, beaten in 8 by senior clubs, and four times by junior clubs. Of the matches won 55 were with senior clubs. Since 1864 they have held the junior championship of Albany against the numerous clubs of that city, a majority of them extra good junior clubs. They have made three tours to New York city, engaging in matches with the prominent clubs of the metropolis and Brooklyn, such as the Amity, of Brooklyn; Alliance, of New York; Oriental, of New York; Athletic, of Harlem; Jefferson, of Greenpoint; Jerome Park and Franklin clubs combined, in a picked nine, on their last tour this season, and a number of our less prominent clubs. Their trips have invariably been accompanied by success. On their two eastern tours they met and defeated such clubs as the Everetts, of Roxbury; Union, of Hillsdale; Columbia, of Chatham, and others. They have also played matches in the vicinity of Albany and along the Hudson, which resulted in a manner highly pleasing to themselves and friends. The season of 1867 was opened April 14th, with the Champion Club of Troy, a club with considerable notoriety, whom they vanquished by a score of 34 to 30. During April they played the Mutual, Lone Star, Atlantic, Union and Eagle, all of Albany, and were successful in every match. In May they played eight matches, of which they won seven and lost one with the National Club, of Albany, a senior club of excellent reputation as players and gentlemen. This game they contested with firmness, till the eighth innings, when a wild throw lost them the game, the score standing, Live Oak, 18; Nationals, 23. In June they played in seven games, winning five, with two drawn games. The games won were the Atlantic, of Albany; Olympic, of West Albany; Stars, of Kinderhook; Kaphis, of Mount Ida, and Adams, of North Albany. In July they played in seven games, winning all. In August they played five, being successful in each game. Among their matches was one with the Athletic, of Harlem, who went up very confident of success, but destined to be disappointed, as they were beaten by a score of 53 to 9. In September they played four games, as usual winning all. On September 29th they started for their third annual trip to New York, and on Monday, Sept. 30th, they played the return match with the Athletic, of Harlem, whom they again defeated badly by 54 to 9. On Oct. 1, they played for the Junior Championship of the State, with the Amity Club, of Brooklyn, whom they defeated by a tally of 30 to 19. On the following day they were to have played a match with the Jerome Park Club, of New York, but on their arrival at the ground the Jerome Park failed to put in an appearance. Rather than disappoint the Albanians, some one of the many ball players present selected a nine composed of the best players on the ground. After five innings had been played it was quite dark and game was called, the score standing Live Oak 36; Picked Nine, 27. On Friday they started for home and were met at the steamboat landing by a committe of their friends, who showed their appreciation of their victories by tendering them a complimentary dinner at the Delevan House. During the remaining days of October they played in three matches, of which they won two and lost one—their second defeat by the Nationals, (seniors) of Albany. The match took place on the Fair Grounds for a silver ball, and resulted after a well contested game in favor of the Nationals by a score of 21 to 16. In November the cold weather had set in and it was their determination to give up for the season, but the Jefferson Club, of Greenpoint, desired the championship and issued a challenge to that effect, which was promptly accepted, and the game took place Monday, Nov. 18th, in Albany, on the Parade Ground. Darkness ended the game on the 4th innings, up to which time their had scored 37 runs to the Greenpointers' 18, in consequence of which the Jeffersons went home without the much-coveted championship.

Before we give the recapitulation of the Live Oaks' games, a word or two about the junior championship may not be out of place. For some three years back the Live Oaks have labored assiduously for the title which they now possess. It was their determination on their first visit to New York, in 1864, to secure if possible the junior championship of the State, and to that end they then resolved to compete with the first class junior clubs of New York and Brooklyn, and all success should secure them the much coveted title. That success they have virtually obtained, and through the means which they had first resolved on. Next season we suppose a number of our junior clubs will be anxious to have the championship in New York again. If so the Live Oaks will be ready and anxious to play with any of them, either here or in Albany.

PLAYERS.	POSITIONS.	No. Games.	No. of.	Average.	No. of.	Average.	SCORERS.	BASES.	FLY-OUT OR.
Eyers	First Base	39	54	1-15	159	1-3	Clean	2	1
J. Jones	Fielder	41	67	1-24	210	1-48	Blank	0	0
Donohue	Left Field	28	69	1-21	166	5-28	Left on	1	0
Weldon	Third Base	42	92	1-5	121	1-35	Out on	0	0
Corrigan	Right Field	30	30	1-14	124	1-4	Caught	1	0
J. Jones	Short Stop	41	41	1-3	116	5-38	Missed	0	0
W. Murphy	Second Base	40	90	2-10	98	2-5	Foul	0	0
J. Murphy	Centre Field	40	60	1-20	142	1-32	Struck	0	0
T. Jones	Catcher	40	66	1-20	186	4-32	Hom Runs	0	0
Doebe	Short Stop	30	30	1-4	56	1-28	Wild Th'ws	0	0
Pitcher	Pitcher	3	3	1-3	5	1-3	Passed Balls	0	0
Coleman	Catcher	41	41	1-3	116	5-38	Out on Fly	0	0
Clark	Right Field	2	4	1-3	9	0			
Live Oak		39	1512	196-96	762				
Opponents		41	464	11-133	762				

Three drawn games.

CHEQUERS.

Game No. 31.---Vol. XV.

THE BROOKLYN.

Black. Mr. M.	White. Mr. G.	Black. Mr. M.	White. Mr. G.
1..10 to 14	23 to 19	11..19 to 24	27 to 20 (c)
2..11 16	19 15	12..23 27	32 28
3..16 19	24 17	13..18 27	16 11
4. 14 18	17 14	14..27 32	26 23 (d)
5..12 16	24 20	15..32 27	25 22
6..7 11	27 24	16..27 25	29 22
7..18 23	14 10	17..14 18	21 17
8..11 18	24 15(a)	18..8 25	30 21
9..16 19	20 16	19.. 8 12, and wins.	
10.. 9 14	31 27(b)		

(a) 20 to 11 loses. (b) White cannot save the game after making this move. (c) 23 to 19 is no better. (d) White has nothing better.

Solution of Position No. 59.--Vol. XV.

BY J. FEY.

Black.	White.	Black.	White.
1..11 to 7	28 to 19	3.. 2 to 6, and wins.	
2..17 14	10 17		

Solution of Position No. 60.--Vol. XV.

SELECTED.

Black.	White.	Black.	White.
1.. 4 to 8	26 to 17	4..25 to 21	3 to 10
2.. 2 7	16 11	5..21 7, and wins.	
3..29 25	12 3		

Position No. 61, Vol. XV.

BY M. T.

BLACK.

WHITE.

Black to move and win.

Position No. 62, Vol. XV.

BY THE EDITOR P. D.

BLACK.

WHITE.

White to move and win

ADVERTISEMENTS.

WINTER EVENING AMUSEMENTS.—Parlor Fireworks, 25 cents. Magic Ferns, 25 cents. The Egyptian Mystery, 25 cents. Magic Cigar Lighters, 25 cents. Par or Lightning, 25 cents. The Oriental Mystery, 25 cents. The Parlor Pistol, 25 cents. Chinese Parlor Sights, 25 cents. Explosive Spiders, 25 cents. Magic Cards, 50 cents. The Magic Die, $1, and games of all kinds. Send orders to O. A. BOORBACH.
37-4tx 122 Nassau street, New York.

ASTONISHING!—MADAME MAURICE, from Corsica, can produce, by means of the Horoscope, a true likeness of your future husband or wife, with name, pecuniary circumstances, occupation, felicity of married life, date of marriage, and your entire destiny. Thousands of testimonials assert her ability, and she will willingly return your money if her predictions prove untrue. State your age, color of hair and eyes, enclosing 50c. with post-paid envelope, and receive the picture by return mail. Address, in confidence, MADAME MAURICE,
38-1t* Box 12, Fultonville, N. Y.

NOTICE.—The cheapest PHOTOGRAPHS ever in the market. 17 Photographs of all the Presidents of the United States, from Washington the first to Johnson the 17th. Sent by mail free of charge for 15 cents. CUSHING & BRO.,
38-1t* 202 Chestnut st., Philadelphia, Pa.

THE GAME OF CHESS.

To Correspondents.

H. C. MILES.—If we remember correctly, our Prob. No. 591 was solved by but a single correspondent. We have still one of your positions waiting the completion of the Tourney, but we should be much pleased to receive those you mention, to be sure of a good selection on the conclusion of that event.

"LAUDERDIOTANTES."—The lists of the Tourney having been closed for several weeks, we cannot, in justice to the competitors, now reopen them; but if you will favor us with the solution of your highly and, we doubt not, correctly elaborated position, we shall take pride in being the medium selected for presenting it to the Chess world.

W. H. L., Cincinnati, O.—An examination having decided the positions unsuited for publication, they were, of course, destroyed. We would encourage you to persevere in study and effort, but not in the direction of mates, which none but a practised master should attempt. When you have achieved some really meritorious positions with strategical point and finish, you will thank us for having withheld these.

C. B., Haverstraw.—We join in your appreciation of Herr Paulsen's late blindfold games, and have another we shall treat you to; we do not know how to get the whole of them. The Vol. of Andersaan we presume you could get through Westermann & Co., the German book sellers; but if specially imported for you will cost extravagantly.

KOLISCH-NEUMANN.—It has generally been made to appear, we know not of course by whose means, that Herr N. had challenged the three who came out above him in the great Parisian Tourney, and that two of them evaded the combat. Herr Kolisch is out over his own name, placing himself at Herr N.'s disposal for a month, and proffering him a grand match for superiority, with a money margin of from 2,000 to 10,000 francs. So it is now incumbent on Herr N. either to fight for fame and francs, or be content to rank, as he now stands, below the chief victor, if no other, in that notable passage at arms Caissan.

THE GRAND TOURNEY so long in progress in the Melbourne C. C. is at last reported completed. The following players finally ranked as under:

Names.	*Games.*	*Won.*	*Lost.*	*Drawn.*
Burns	36	21	3	2
Tullidge	28	19	5	4
Baynes	29	17	5	7
M'Combe	28	16	6	6
Cantes	28	15	7	6
Goldsmith	24	14	8	2
Stephen	24	14	8	2
Sedgfield	23	13	9	0

Messrs. Dickson, Lucas and L. Phillips tied on winning 12 games, etc., to the bottom of the roll.

IT IS HIGHLY PROBABLE that a Chess club will soon be formed in Concord, N. H.

Enigma No. 604.

Third Prize Problem.—"Shower of Stars."

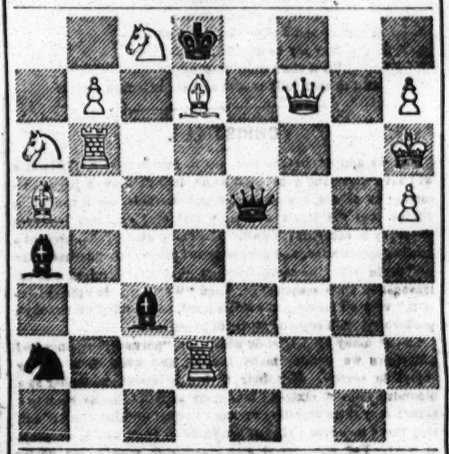
BY HERR KLING.

White to play and give mate in four moves.

Problem No. 604.--Tourney No. 12.

"O. K."

BLACK.



WHITE.

White compels mate in seven moves.

Game No. 604.

Played at the Brooklyn Divan between our contributor P. Richardson and Capt. Raymond.

EVANS GAMBIT.

Attack, Richardson.	Defence, Raymond.	Attack, Richardson.	Defence, Raymond.
1..P to K 4	P to K 4	17..K B to B 4 +	K to his R sq
2..K Kt-B 3	Q Kt-B 3	18..K R-Kt sq	Q Kt-R 2
3..K B-B 4	K B-B 4	19..Kt-K B 4	K Kt × Kt
4..P-Q Kt 4	B × Kt P	20..Q B × Kt	Q Kt-Kt 3
5..P-Q B 3	B-Q B 4	21..K R × Kt	B P × R
6..P-Q 4	K P × P	22..Q-R B sq	Q-her 2
7..Castles	P-Q 3	23..Q-R Kt 2	P-K Kt 4
8..B P × P	K B-Kt 3	24..Q B-K 3	P-K Kt 3
9..Q Kt-B 3	Q Kt-R 4	25..P-K B 4	Kt 2d P × P
10..K B-Q 3	K Kt-K 2	26..Q B × P	K-his Kt 2
11..Q B-Kt 5 (a)	Castles	27..R-K Kt sq	Q-K sq
12..Q Kt-K 2	Q B-Kt 5	28..Q B-K 3	P-K B 4
13..K-his R sq	Q B × Kt	29..K P × P	K R × P
14..Kt P × B	P-K B 3	30..Q-K Kt 4	K R-B 3
15..Q B-R 4	K Kt-his 3	31..Q-K R 4	Q-K B sq,
16..B-K Kt 3	Q Kt-B 3	and "the Attack mates in four moves." Can he certainly do it? He appears to intend 1..K R × P ×; now if 1..K to B sq, we have not seen the mate in three.	

(a) Our correspondent notes this as "weak."

An Interesting Discovery.

In "Brevity and Brilliancy in Chess," p. 136, we give a game between our present contributor and an amateur, which runs to 26 moves, at which point Mr. R. announces mate in 6 moves. At the 17th move of the Defence we suggest: "Will the reader please here and see if he can win with the White forces in fifteen moves, at most." We are tru

NEW YORK CLIPPER.

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NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

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FRANK QUEEN, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR,
No. 22 Spruce street, New York.

NOTICE.

ADVERTISERS must hand in their favors before 6 o'clock on Monday evening, in order to have them appear in that week's issue.

To Correspondents.

GOVERNOR, Cincinnati, O.—1. Coburn, Barney Aaron, Dooney Harris and Jem Mace. 2. There are two methods of getting the head in chancery. First seize your adversary round the neck, with the left arm thrown over his right shoulder, which brings you both facing the same way; then swing yourself to the right, stepping from your antagonist at the same time with the right foot, bear him down until his head is on a level with your heart. Then either grasp your left wrist with your right hand, and compress your hold with all your might, unless you can hold him tight with the left arm alone. Or you can reverse the order of things and use the right arm. Second, your left having missed its mark, and passed over the left shoulder, throw it backwards around your adversary's neck, at the same time throwing the entire weight of your body upon him till you bring his head down to your left hip; then grasp your left arm at the wrist and lift him from the ground, making his head your fulcrum. 3. Sullivan was dead when Heenan and Morrissy fought.

G. BRODIE.—1. Heenan and King fought for £2,000, which is a larger sum in gold than ten thousand dollars in greenbacks at present rates, but there's no telling what changes the money market may undergo 'twixt now and the 27th of May next. 2. The quickest time on record between Putney and Mortlake, 7¾ minutes 13 seconds, was made by Tom White in his race with Harry Clasper.

H. S. WOOD, Lowell.—Your letter and contents were received, and we were under the impression that you had been replied to in this department at the time. One of the agencies might procure a situation for you, but at this season it is not an easy matter to effect an engagement such as you desire. Try an advertisement once; something may grow out of it. The money you sent will pay for it.

OCCASIONAL READER, Boston, Mass.—1. They don't stop at all until the distance is completed. 2. No, she is not. 3. Yankee Sullivan did not second either Lilly or McCoy in the battle which resulted in the death of the latter. Jim Sandford seconded McCoy. 4. Not that we are aware of; his right name was Frank Ambrose.

T. F. WENDLING, New Rochelle, N. Y.—1. Mr. Roberts, 96 Ninth Avenue, this city. 2. Billy Edwards has not challenged Sam Collyer directly, although he had a standing defi to fight any boxy at 128lbs. 3. Johnny Broome beat Jack Hannan in 47 rounds 79 minutes, Jan. 26, 1841. 4. Drumgoole is alive and kicking. 5. That's something no one can tell but himself.

J. T. S., Baltimore, Md.—Heenan certainly was entitled to the stakes and belt, but as it wasn't "on the books" for him to win, the referee didn't stop to see it out, and afterward declared it a drawn battle. A *fac simile* of the original belt was to have been presented to each man, but after much ado about nothing Heenan came home empty handed.

J. E., Detroit.—1 Barry made his first appearance in this country at the old Broadway Theatre, in this city, Nov. 22, 1858, as Hamlet. He did play an engagement at the Holliday Street Theatre, Baltimore, during the season of 1859. He sailed for England in the summer of 1860.

BLUE JACKET, U. S. B. Ship, Ohio.—Capt. Barclay in December, 1806, accomplished the arduous feat of walking 100 miles in 19 hours over a very bad road. Exclusive of stoppages the distance was made in 17½ hours, or at the rate of about five miles and three-quarters each hour.

JOHNNY, Port Henry.—1. Dick Sands is the better of the two mentioned. 2. You might procure a situation by applying to one of the many companies now in existence, but take our advice and keep out of the business.

AN OLD READER.—If the person who keeps a stand at the junction of the streets named cannot supply you with the papers you need, you will find them close by, in Broadway. It is evident that the "junction" person cannot keep a news stand.

C. P.—1. Lew Simmons is an end man and banjoist. 2. In this city, we believe. 3. He excels as a song and dance man for his style as well as execution of difficult steps. 4. About twenty dollars a week. 5. He is considered a good end man.

W. J. E., Mt. Pleasant.—1. We cannot send you the back numbers. 2. Write to Bob Hart, care Butler's Theatre, this city. 3. Write to Geo. K. Goodwin, under Dodworth Hall, Broadway, this city.

NOVICE.—1. The average of anything is found by dividing the aggregate amount by the number of times, persons or things involved. 2. Hyer and Sullivan fought for $10,000. 3. No. Not *since* his defeat by Collyer.

J. SCHOFIELD, Philadelphia.—The players who had two to make are equally entitled to the chickens with yourself, the euchre putting all out together. The three who had two each to make, and yourself, should play another game for the prize.

JACKSON.—1. The population of the city of [illegible] at the taking of the last census was 2,803 [illegible]. Diamonds being trumps, [illegible] you have none, you are not obliged to play your ace of [illegible]. We never [illegible] and can play any card in your hand you please. We never [illegible] and consent to [illegible] shall be pleased to see the article.

[illegible] born in Temple- [illegible], of silk, were a [illegible] take place over again. [illegible] make the award he did [illegible] perfectly unwarrantable.

G. J. [illegible]renton, N. J.—The buyer who, having only one to go, bids two and holding high, Jack, game, makes the points required and goes out on high before the player holding low.

SAM. F., Valley Falls, N. Y.—Address some one of our advertisers who make that business a specialty. We have no preference.

OPS, Altoona Pa.—When your opponent knocked your ball off the table, it was your turn to play next from the string. No penalty could be demanded.

A. M.—Patsy Marley died last summer, while on his way to San Francisco, Cal., at a place on the Desert called Death Valley, from exhaustion and thirst.

YOUNG SPORT, Providence, R. I.—1. There is no such work published. Guess you mean "Hoyle's Games." 2. John Mulholland.

CONSTANT READER, Pittsburgh, Pa.—Frank Swift challenged Goodrich, as you would have known had you been a "constant reader."

CONFIDENTIAL, Philadelphia, Pa.—1. We advise you to write to the parties a second time. 2. We have no record of his time. 3. Do you mean by man or horse—running or trotting.

H. A. B. C.—We are told that the citizens have subscribed a large amount to defray all expenses. If that is true we think it would be safe for you to go.

D. O., Brooklyn.—Thanks for your kind attention. Our answer settled the bet, which was that he had not appeared at all during that time.

SPRING HEEL.—J. Adams is credited with performing the feat of walking one hundred miles in twenty-two hours and eight minutes.

J. M. H., Savannah.—1. Items will be acceptable. 2. The meaning of Euterpe in mythology is the one who presides over wind instruments.

DICK, Baltimore.—1. Was born in 1834. 2. The St. Charles was formerly called Arnold's Olympic, and first opened Sept. 12, 1853.

L. C. S., Brooklyn.—1. You will find full particulars of the Evening Star disaster in the CLIPPER of Oct. 20, 1866. 2. You should write on one side of the paper only.

J. W.—We have no recollection of ever having heard of an actor by that name.

J. PROSIE, Chicago, Ill.—James Cusick was with him all the time, assisted during the latter portion by Jerry Donovan.

NOBODY'S DAUGHTER.—We have no recollection of that lady ever playing "Mazeppa."

E. A. R., Philadelphia, Pa.—One dollar each insertion, from which deduct 10 per cent for 13 times in advance.

IRON CITY.—We thank you for your offer, but the position is already filled.

H. W., St. Louis.—Thank you; will probably make use of a few of them.

AMATEUR OARSMAN, Cincinnati, O.—Drop a note to James McKay or Stephen Roberts, boat-builders.

CONTRIBUTOR, Buffalo.—It will cost N 3 cents to come in and F 2 cents.

NORTH STAR.—Three sixes and two fives beat three aces and two fives at poker dice.

REIBEL ROOS, Dayton.—If B gives a three for his hand and he only wants two, he is of course out.

L. P. W., Philadelphia.—We did not hear the lady's name mentioned.

C. D., New York.—Twelve won, and A and C might have divided the stake if they had chosen so to do.

J. E. N., Richmond, Va.—The lady, of course; you know they always have the preference.

JOHN MURDOCH, New Paris, O.—Three lines for three months (13 times) among theatrical advertisements will cost you $1.68 and the contents are not in a healthy condition.

GREENVILLE.—He as well as any and every player has a right to shuffle the cards, but you are entitled to the last shuffle.

J. W. J., Wood's Run.—1. Twenty years of age and not married. 2. She plays in your city in about three months.

F. S., Quincy, Ill.—We know nothing of the solvency or honesty of the institution.

H. G., Cleveland, O.—They are not his sons. Collyer is 25 years old.

P. GRODY, Le Roy, N. Y.—The papers leave this office on Tuesday morning of each week.

H. C. M., Wareham, Mass.—Your subscription expires with No. 51, present volume.

CONSTANT READER, Brooklyn, L. I.—Better address a note to the party yourself. 2. Not by any means.

W. R. B., Atlanta, Ga.—The item is too stale for our columns. Hurry up the cakes, hereafter.

J. W. L., Ansable Forks, N. Y.—Heenan was defeated by Tom King at Wadhurst, Eng., Dec. 10, 1863.

JACK, Fairmount, N. Y.—Sayers' right arm was injured in the sixth round by a blow which drove it back against his face.

A MARINE, Washington, D. C.—1. Why not? 2. Send on a forfeit, that we may know you mean business.

JULE Boston.—Gus Mortimer is traveling through the West with Holden's "Black Crook" company.

MANY READERS, Little Falls, N. Y.—1. He will be exactly sixty-seven years old, of course. 2. Write to Hank Stowell yourself.

DECISION, Philadelphia.—As there seems to have been a misunderstanding it would be better to consider it a drawn bet.

SKATING RINK.—A letter for Miss Moore, addressed to this office will reach her.

C. G., Buffalo.—There are several performers that get over $50 a week salary, and some $100.

A. C. AND R. P., New York.—It is estimated at about three millions.

OLD MAN.—We cannot inform you when it was first brought into use as it is spoken of in the bible.

THESPIAN, Baltimore.—1. She will appear in your city in about six weeks. 2. Boston is her native city.

J. C., New York.—There is no data by which your question can be correctly answered.

GEO. WAMBOLD, Philadelphia, Pa.—The five dollars pay for five insertions.

C. J. W., Detroit, Mich.—We believe the party to whom you refer does business on the square.

A. P. C., Portsmouth, N. H.—As we are opposed to the use of such weapons we cannot give you the information.

OLD READER.—Soap and water is the only correct way to remove burnt cork.

S. A.—Nearly eleven years.

STEADY READER, Boston.—We have never seen an estimate.

FAT JACK, New Orleans.—He is the lady's husband.

RAT KILLER, Baltimore, Md.—Ask us something hard.

C. V. T., Oswego.—It was a misprint; it should have been $4.

TOBEY, Detroit.—We have a correspondent there.

DICK, Cleveland.—Jack is the highest card.

S. J., Newark.—Your partner cannot play it alone.

S. JONES, Chicago.—Low goes out before Jack, game.

CONSTANT READER, Louisville.—He was born in Philadelphia.

MAY EDWARDS.—The lady is not married.

CHRISTMAS GREETING:

To the Readers of the New York Clipper.

Here's a jolly Christmas dinner
To every saint and sinner
Who has read the NEW YORK CLIPPER thro' the year—
May their happiness be doubled,
Their future days untroubled,
And the tenor of their ways be full of cheer.

Here's a Christmas extra pleasant
To the children; may each present
Make their pretty eyes to water with delight;
May Santa Claus caress 'em,
And may the good Lord bless 'em,
And keep their feet within the paths of right.

Here's to servants and their masters,
To scribbling poetasters,
To pedestrians and pugilists and sports—
May they all prove fair in writing,
In walking, and in fighting,
And may they all excel in various "forte."

Here's to managers and actors,
And no fun to their detractors;
May their benefits be benefits indeed;
And here's to each poor fellow
Whose leaf is sere and yellow—
May he find a friend—a true one—in his need.

Here's to "fakirs" and magicians,
And those in low positions,
As well as to the stars that brighter shine—
May they gather in the money
As the bees rake in the honey,
And never want a steak on which to dine.

Then here's a Christmas dinner
To every saint and sinner,
A turkey and a pudding full of plums—
May joy be undiminished
Until the race is finished
And to each jolly reader a final Christmas comes.

CHRISTMAS.

ERE we appear before you again, gentle reader, Christmas will have come and gone. To some, it will prove a joyous occasion; to others, one of sorrow and distress, for it cannot be denied that the times are sadly out of joint, and business generally is exceedingly dull. The fancy stores, etc., present a healthy appearance, and people crowd them, but purchases are not made with the same freedom that characterised our extravagance a few seasons ago, when "War, with its wide desolation," very strangely made times good, and stuffed everybody's pocketbook with copious stores of greenbacks.

To our many kind friends who have "perused" us since last Christmas we tender many thanks, and wish them a very enjoyable season. May their turkey be sweet and tender as a blooming miss of sixteen; may their appetites be as keen as a razor; may their digestive organs be equal to "Our Jim's;" and may there be never a sign of her lache in their chins, whiskey, or beer. For other good and [illegible] wishes, see poetic strains elsewhere.

"INDISPOSITION" ON THE STAGE.

We have frequently, within the past six months, been compelled to record the "indiscretions," to put it in a mild form, indulged in by performers on the public stage, not only in this city, but in those places where temptations are not so numerous. These "indiscretions," we are sorry to say, are not confined to the masculine gender, but include a number of the softer persuasion in the black list, and some of them, of both sexes, among the shining lights in the dramatic firmament. There are many actors in the dramatic profession who possess all the attributes of good performers—great histrionic powers, commanding presence, fine address, and rich, melodious voice—combined qualities that make up the excellence of the artist. If an actor abuses these gifts, he becomes, not only the wreck of the man, but of his genius. We have all long since learned of the downfall of Addams, Ingersoll, Perry, Eaton and others who at one time shone with lustre in the dramatic world. If those who are now toiling through their theatrical apprenticeship, and to whom the stage is to look hereafter for its artists, are encouraged to emulate the sad example of those we have named by the supineness of our audiences, we can have but little hope for the future greatness of the histrionic profession. Although instances are not uncommon of public performers appearing on the stage in a state of intoxication, yet the press is silent upon the subject, and audiences appear indifferent. What if the great Kean, Cooke, Booth, Fennell, Webb, Addams, Perry, and others exhibited their "eccentricities" upon the stage, and had their "indiscretions" glossed over by a forbearing public? Does it follow that the "eccentricities" of those men are to be emulated to ensure success? Yet many assume this to be a necessity, and essential to histrionic fame. The public should teach them the fallacy of such reasoning by hissing every "indisposed"—or intoxicated—performer off the boards. Booth's "weakness" gave him the character of an eccentric man, and as this eccentricity tended to make him popular, others in the profession sought to imitate his weakness and his eccentricities in the hope of becoming equally popular—but they lacked the genius of the man they sought to imitate, and they soon fell to rise no more. In a number of cases brought to our immediate notice, "indisposition" and "eccentricity" culminate in beastiality and a drunkard's grave. A popular actor of the day has so frequently appeared upon the stage in a state of gross intoxication that many who go to see him perform do so for the purpose of witnessing some eccentricities not enumerated in the bill. Another has been tolerated so long that his drunken antics have become a part of his attractive powers. And yet another has been permitted to insult his audiences night after night by appearing before them looking more like a bummer than anything else; while his appearance on the street, occasionally, with a pair of black eyes, has been the signal for mischievous urchins to cry out, "There goes the drunken actor!" And we are very sorry to have to say that certain actresses here and in Europe are no better than the men in this respect; we have known instances where these "drunken ladies"—as the children would call them—have been gallantly led off the stage by the actors, and their non-appearance for the balance of the evening accounted for by the plea of "indisposition." What performers may do off the stage is not the business of the public, we are given to understand; but the public have a voice in the matter when these private orgies are continued on the public stage, disgracing not only the actors, but the noble profession of which they are unworthy members. The people who patronise our places of amusement should not permit these "eccentric" performers to come before them in a state of "semi-unconsciousness." The press should speak out boldly on this subject, and decry a vice that seems to be increasing with such fearful rapidity. Let them condemn all performers who make a public display of their drunken gymnastics, and it will not be long before the nuisance will be abated. The worthy members of the profession—who are placed in an awkward position by the "eccentricities" of those with whom they are compelled to associate on the stage—demand a reform in this matter. It is due to the public that they should no longer be insulted by the vulgar performances of drunken actors. The press and public can control this matter if they will. Let the good work commence at once.

A FENIAN DEMONSTRATION on a mammoth scale is to take place in Philadelphia on the 1st of January, in honor of the Fenians recently executed in Manchester. A funeral procession is to be one of the features of the occasion, in which various societies will participate. It is thought that there will be 15,000 persons in the line of the procession.

SHOWMEN.

DICKENS is making a great deal of money in his new calling of a showman, and we doubt whether any other "one-horse show"—as the professionals call it—has ever done so well as this Dickens exhibition. It is not an easy matter for a single individual to stand up before a mixed audience and entertain that audience, single-handed, for an hour or two. Dan Rice, some years ago, did well with his one-horse show, but then he was assisted by his *horse;* Dan is a capital talker, but he would not have met with the success he did meet with had he not been assisted by the quadruped. The two of 'em worked well together, and Dan became rich. Dickens, however, *without* a horse, is making more money than even Dan Rice made *with* a horse; Dan increased his forces afterwards, and seeing the benefit accruing from the animal show, he engaged two mules—two educated mules—and these mules became as famous as the clown. Dickens, however, has none of these auxiliaries, no horse, no mules, nothing but himself; to be sure he has Dolby, but Dolby isn't a horse; neither does Dolby show on the stage. Artemus Ward was a success as a showman, and attracted large audiences nightly; but then Artemus was aided by paintings, or a panorama, which Dickens has not. Mr. Dickens is not only a success as a showman, but he reads well, and is a good imitator, although in saying this we do not mean to disparage Charley Backus, Alf. Burnett, Frank Chanfrau, J. H. Budworth and others, whose imitations are of "a high order of merit." Mr. Dickens' versatility is unbounded; he is David Copperfield, Smike, Oliver Twist, Marley's Ghost, *everybody*, in fact. He is equal to that other great showman, Mr. Mullet, who gave a single-handed show, and appeared in a greater variety of characters than any other showman we have any knowledge of; he not only imitated their characteristics and voice, but he went through various feats associated with their name and fame. Mr. Mullet was a whole team himself, just like Mr. Dickens, without even a mule to assist him.

Even Mr. Dickens' versatility is excelled by that of the showman Mullet, and yet Mr. Mullet never made as much money as Mr. Dickens is making in the same line of business. A more money-making "one-horse-show" than that given by Mr. Dickens was never known. We know several traveling managerial showmen who will guarantee Dickens one thousand dollars for each exhibition if Dickens will permit them to tote him around the country the same as any other show. We have no doubt that Barnum would give him even more than that for the privilege of setting him up alongside of the Fat Woman, Learned Seal, Happy Family, etc.; but Mr. Dickens is rather too smart for them; if *they* can make money out of him, why cannot he, himself? And to this end he is going it alone, being his own manager, his own show, and his own money-taker, and the dollars are flowing in upon him with a profusion characteristic of the American people. *Vive* Mullet, Dickens, Dan Rice, Backus and Burnett.

SMALL TALK.

"Our Jim" circulates around a great deal, especially during the Christmas holidays. He has just been telling us a yarn about a couple of those frail creatures who are saddled with taunts of unbridled extravagance. They had got tired of dancing in the underground resorts, and getting into a quarrel, commenced "sparring for wind," as the sports say. The police put them out on the sidewalk, and one of them thought of becoming honest, "Our Jim" says. This honest one, in "seeking for a home," was sent, by way of an intelligence office, to a covey's house; but he, seeing her decked out in her ball-room attire, thought her too rich for him to be her boss. She quit, but appeared before him again next day; he was about to club her out, when she said:—"You needn't get wrothy! *This* time I come from *another* intelligence office." Jim's story reminds us of something similar, of which you may have heard. A little boy was sent by his mother to the Dutch grocery to see what time it was. "Ten o'clock," said the Dutchman. Off started the boy, but returned in a moment, and again asked the time. "Why, I just told you," says the grocer. "I know," replied the boy; "that was for my mother; this is for another woman." That puts us in mind of something else—maybe we have told you about it before; if we have, say nothing about it. It was the day before Christmas, when a "friend and brother" of colored proclivities appeared before us, soliciting aid [illegible] of a colored corpse. "You see, bossy," said Sambo, "[illegible] people died last night, and dar haint a cent about de house to git her buried." We questioned the gentleman about the deceased, her residence, cause of death, etc. "Oh, I'se all right about dat, bossy; I'se got de papers, you see; I'se got de papers what'll [illegible] about de old lady." Thereupon he drew from one of his pockets a much-used and tattered document. "Read dat, bossy," said he, his eyes brilliant with expectation—"dat paper gib de best account of her deseece, wid de names of gemmen what scribed towards de funeral. Read, for yourself, bossy." We took the paper, opened it, ran our eyes over the contents, but saw nothing about Mrs. Peabody. "Why there's nothing about a dead woman here," we said. "What do you mean by coming here with such a falsehood? This paper is for a subscription towards a Christmas party to be given at Josephine Dalrymple's!" "Is dat so, bossy? Dem *dam* niggers must a-*gibben me de wrong paper!*" We find a good many parties traveling around with the wrong paper just now, and many a person is victimized thereby.

ABOUT LEGS.

Cotton used to be recognised as King, but cotton, even for breastworks, is nowhere now. Legs carry everything before them. Ever since Manager Wheatley brought to our notice the physical charms of the "Black Crook" coryphees, and showed us all manner of symmetrical limbs, legs have had things their own way, and we bow down to them as "the heathen in his blindness bows down to wood and stone." We care not to whom they belong, so that they are legs, pure and simple. Our admiration for legs increases each day; we almost cry after them as children cry after arrow root pap. And we even fight for their possession. Since our last a legal fight has been going on for the possession of a pair of finely-formed legs belonging to Sohlke. They originally, after their importation into this country, belonged to Manager DePol, the head man of the "Devil's Auction;" but it seems that the course of true legs never did run smooth, for Manager Wheatley—who is a *connoisseur* in articles of this kind, and produces some of the best in the market—*seeing* Sohlke's legs, became smitten, and coveted them with a longing eye. Legs are, to a certain extent, like other commodities, governed in price according to quality, and supply and demand. Sohlke's legs, like good wine, need no bush. Wheatley "saw them," and in sporting parlance, felt "better," we are told. Poor Pol, who had been "going it blind," so to speak, would have "straddled" him, but Wheatley "oversized his pile," and the legs were accordingly passed over to W., without even giving poor Pol "a sight for his money," which made the Spanish gentleman as sulky as the fair *danseuse*. So Pol gets out an injunction against Wheatley and his new fair, to prevent the latter from showing at Niblo's, but a kind hearted judge, who believes in giving the legs plenty of exercise, put an injunction on the other injunction, permitting Sohlke to have the privilege of exercising her legs in Niblo's Garden, but not to go beyond the bounds of the flowery paths of that famous imaginary conservatory. And that's how the legs stand at present. We are sorry for De Pol; he is entitled to public sympathy; but for his enterprise we should never have seen Sohlke or her legs, nor witnessed her dash and abandon in the Hungarian dance. But the end is not yet—De Pol may claim the fulfilment of his contract; the law may render unto De Pol the legs that are De Pol's, and deprive Wheatley of a portion of his running gear. In the meantime where is Brother Smythe with a y? Let us hear from this legal apostle.

GETTING SET.—General Grant's "private letter" to the President, which, after long days of weary waiting, has just been made public, has had the effect to "set" political parties, as it were; that is, the document seemingly defines his position, lays down his platform, and makes the course straighter for the parties who claim him as their candidate for the Presidency. The next Presidential Race promises to be very animated.

POULTRY.—The first exhibition of the Pennsylvania Poultry Society is to be held in Assembly Building, Philadelphia, commencing Monday, Dec. 30.

COL. MONSTERY VS COL. O'ROURKE.—We were only recently made aware of the fact that Col. O'Monstery, the swordsman, who recently published an acceptance of the defi issued by Col. O'Rourke last spring, had taken his departure for Havana on the 5th inst. He came to the conclusion that there was no prospect of effecting the proposed meeting, and having business in Havana, sailed in the steamer Columbia, leaving word that in case his propositions were agreed to he would return to this city immediately upon receiving notification thereof; an answer to O'Rourke's letter may be looked for in due time.

A VETERAN HUNTER.—Gen. Leslie Coombs, of Kentucky, went out hunting one night recently, and captured three opossums and one raccoon. The old gentleman, who was a contemporary of Clay, Calhoun and Webster, it is stated, is as straight as an arrow, hale and hearty, and looks as if he might live for twenty years to come. He has not an unsound tooth or gray hair in his head, and never carries a cane.

THE RING.

THE TESTIMONIAL TO JERRY DONOVAN.

A PACKED HOUSE AND AN A 1 EXHIBITION.

"Holy sailor, what a crowd!" "Did you ever see anything like it?" These and similar ejaculations were heard on every side at Marbie Hall, on 13th street, just east of Fourth avenue, on the evening of Saturday last, 21st inst., upon which occasion the testimonial tendered the Chicago magnate, Jerry Donovan, who fought some good men and whipped 'em all, took place at the said establishment. And well might they have said so, for never since the days away back in the dim vista of the past, when the girls, in order to get their hands in, were wont to daddle us in their arms and press our cherub-like form to their palpitating bosoms when we didn't know how to appreciate such luxuries, were we subjected to such a "squoozing" as we were compelled to endure on that night, and the only wonder is that we ever succeeded in passing through the trying ordeal with our constitution unimpaired. The dimensions of the hall are rather contracted, about seven hundred being all that could by hook or by crook manage to obtain standing room. It was by no means adapted for a sparring entertainment, especially one of this character, and Jerry's friends would have done a wiser thing had they secured a larger hall. Hundreds went as far as the head of the stairs, and then, appalled at the jam, and seeing no possibility of obtaining a view of the stage, retraced their steps. Among those present were John C. Heenan, Frank Burns, John McDevitt, the Billiard Champion, Mike Geary, Tommy Burns, Joe Coburn and other notables of the metropolis. At eight o'clock Tovee got together

Ocean and Pearson, who although "o'er young to marry yet," gave unmistakable evidence that their fistic culture had been carefully attended to, commencing operations without delay, and after a style which showed that neither cared a whit for any number of "punches in the nob," or any other part of their anatomy, but were bent on doing their level best to get the upper hand of each other. The wind-up capped the climax of a rattled bout, being give and take from the word go, and the rivals coming to the horizontal in a close embrace, amid the entusiastic shouts of the surging congress of humanity.

Pete McGinniss and the white headed whistler from 'Lunnun town" Billy Edwards, came next in a set-to which was, as everybody anticipated would be the case from the character of these practitioners, a scorcher from the moment Uncle William took the back step, and just set their partisans wild with excitement, which they vented in exclamations such as "Slug him, Billy," "Go in, Petey, my boy," and more like unto 'em. It was hot enough before, but these repeated shouts of encouragement, combined with sundry and divers pointings, anything but delicately applied, warmed up the representatives of the shamrock and rose until they seemed about to explode, and kept them to their work harder and longer than would otherwise have been the case, and they finally let up by mutual consent.

The little, but sturdily put up and old-looking British featherweight, George Cheer, now mounted the boards with a cove named Matt Horan, older, heavier, and more muscular, to stand opposite. Although not quite so good as the previous set-to, owing to Cheer having rather the best of his adversary, it was well worth the looking at, each using right and left in a manner which threatened to bore good-sized holes through the other, neither minding it a bit, although from the way they winced and snuffed occasionally, their cuticle was not insensitive to the putting administered and received. The audience testified their appreciation by thunders of applause, which liked to have unroofed the ranche.

That old-fashioned looking rooster, Johnny Grady, the semi-ventriloquist, was next to face the footlights, with his friend of yore, Bagley, to divide the honors, which he's often done before. This was a twin picture to that betwixt Edwards and Mac, excepting that a little more attention was paid to stopping, which each did cleverly, each knowing by experience every move the other made. There was an abundance of genuine slogging intermingled with the scientific points displayed, the O'Grady adding to the general merriment by his impromptu solos, and the twain making their exit to the regret of the on-lookers, who will hail their next appearance with pleasure, and no mistake.

Uncle Bill now took occasion to announce the fact that Billy Kelly had secured the Everett Rooms for the 27th inst., when he hoped that all of the up-town lad's friends and well-wishers would show, which they doubtless will if we may judge from the applause which this information elicited. Everybody had been on the *qui vive* for the lion of the day, O'Baldwin, and now they were favored with a glimpse of his Milesian *as frontis* and elongated proportions as he appeared upon the stage from some subterranean passage in the rear, for he could never have got there had he attempted to worm his way through the crowd. He was received with three rousing cheers and a tiger, followed by three more for his less ponderous chum and trainer, and a like number for the veteran M. C., who, wide awake, introduced the twain out of courtesy, though the ceremony was unnecessary, as nobody could mistake the great O'B. and had an intimitve knowledge of no his companion with the fur waistcoat was. As soon as the hubbub created by their advent had subsided

Abe Hicken, another recent arrival from the chalky cliffs, who has made a big name for himself in his native land, and Billy Edwards, in obedience to the wishes of the audience—both of them having been mentioned in conection with the light-weight championship—came on for a test of skill. The display in science, if not in regard to roughness, exceeded the expectations of the spectators. It was evident from the instant they placed themselves in posish that each had made up his mind to keep his wits about him, and leave nothing undone to best his opponent, and they went at it like as though they were about to knock each other into the middle of next year, getting all over the stage, first one and then the other on the retreat, without any cessation of hostilities until fired nature compelled 'em to drop the gloves. An indescribable scene of confusion and excitement was witnessed throughout the hall during the glove duht, heightened by the sudden crashing of nearly all the benches in the house through the weight of humanity crowded upon them in their anxiety to see the sport. Altogether, it was one of the best sets-to we ever loosed at, and opinions were divided when they left off, some thinking it an even thing, while others regarded Abe as entitled to the lion's share of the honors, but then it must be remembered that Billy had set-to once before the same evening and wasn't in as good trim as Ebenezer, which of course made considerable difference.

For the wind-up, the *beneficiaire*, Jerry Donovan, put on the pudding bags, amid much applause with Mike Costello, and treated the audience to an exhibition of sand which reflected credit upon the pugilistic education of each exponent, while showing, at the same time, that they weren't averse to enduring any quantity of sockdologers, but were only bent on getting **bunk**, which each succeeded in doing in clever style. The style of the Fulton Market orator is so well known to our readers, that we needn't expatiate thereupon—suffice it to say that he added to his already excellent reputation as an expert manipulator of the gloves. Jerry proved himself a thoroughly skillful boxer, excellent tactician, and an exceedingly hard hitter, as several punches which the Gotham te received on the ribs attested. This furnished an appropriate finish to a night of genuine good boxing, and everybody went away well satisfied with everything, barring the execrable lack of comfort.

WHAT OF THE LIGHT WEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP?

WHERE ARE ALL THE 128LB. MEN?

Contrary to the universally received opinion, based upon the apparent anxiety of certain of our prominent light weights to attain to the honors of the championship, and the positive assertions of well-known sporting men, accustomed to doing things in a business-like manner, that Collyer would not long be permitted to wear undisturbed the laurels won in his battle with Billy Kelly, no one has as yet come forward to dispute his claim to the possession of the coveted title he has so often fought for. What has been the cause of this sudden and unlooked for reaction? We are loth to believe that Sam's performance in the Diamond State has so unsettled the ideas of our ambitious young boxers and their backers relative to his capabilities that they haven't the confidence to meet or back any man of his avoirdupois against him. But if not, wherein lies the secret of the mysterious silence preserved by those who, anterior to the late fight, were so positively spoken of as the next candidates for succession to the championship. We hear of two or three who are professedly desirous of tackling Collyer, but whether from want of backers or not we cannot say, but certain it is that none of them have adopted the proper course to get on a match by publishing a formal challenge over their own signatures. They should either do this or cease allowing their names to be paraded before the public in connection with the matter, which, although doubtless done in a friendly spirit, makes them look ridiculous in the eyes of the people at large, and gives the impression that they are only aiming at notoriety without intending to pursue the right method of obtaining it. They ought to know this, and now that 'tis impressed upon their minds, we trust that they will delay no longer if they really want to fight, but come out flat footed at once, when they will, no doubt, be speedily accommodated, as Sam has a way of doing things which won't admit of procrastination. He will, in all probability, be on hand at Kelly's jamboree on the 27th inst., and whoever wants a shy at him will do the right thing by taking advantage of his presence in the city to arrange matters. Sharp's the word.

A WORD FROM O'BALDWIN.—The public were startled out of their propriety last week by the apparently authorized announcement that the preliminaries had been arranged for a match between the Irish Giant, Ed. O'Baldwin, and Patsy Evans, of Rondout, who, it will be remembered, had a scrap with McGurran some months since on Long Island. On the 20th Jem Corbett, who was to find the stuff for the stranger, called at our office in company with the Hicken brothers—Harry looking as sound as though he hadn't fought for a score of Sundays—and a friend, but Charley Diamond and the parties of the second part failed to show up at the appointed hour, and after waiting over two hours they took the back track. This is, perhaps, the upshot of the affair, although it is possible that a match may be arranged, just to give the boys a chance to see what the hero found beyond the blue water can do when stripped to the pelt. On the 22d inst. a challenge appeared in a contemporary, purporting to come from Luke Murphy, offering to fight O'Baldwin for $1,000 to $2,500 a side, but this turned out to be a sell, Murphy disclaiming any knowledge of such a *defi* having been issued, which may or may not be so. If anybody wants to try the calibre of the Waterford Giant, well and good, but let him make the fact known in a business fashion, as the publication of challenges not properly authenticated gives a very questionable notoriety to the parties mentioned in them, and must operate to their injury. Let's have no more of them. Since writing the above we have been waited upon by a gentleman on behalf of O'Baldwin, who states that he will pay no attention to challenges unless accompanied by a reasonable amount as forfeit. Let the ambitious govern themselves accordingly.

MINOR MILLS.—That well-known spot, Union Hill, N. J., was invaded by a select party of New Yorkers, just about day-light the morning of the 18th inst., who there assembled to witness a passage at arms between a duo of metropolitans, yclept Mike Walsh and Tom Dunn. Forty-four rounds were fought in 1 hour and 20 minutes, each being severely welted, and Dunn being knocked silly at the finish. Dunn got first blood and first knock down in the fifth round.....Bill Mahoney and Tim Dooley fought near Manchester, Pa., on the 16th instant, Dooley waxing his opponent in 33 rounds, and 1 hour and 33 minutes.....Closter, on the Hudson, opposite Yonkers, was the rendezvous for a chosen party of lads who like to look at a fistic scrimmage, on the 20th inst., when Billy Lawrence and Hiram Baker made sport for the boys to the tune of 27 rounds, in 1 hour and 16 minutes, when Baker was hailed the victor, and pocketed the two centuries said to have depended on the issue.

SCIENCE OF SELF DEFENCE.—This is the title of an instructive little work on boxing, wrestling and training, lately issued from the press of Dick & Fitzgerald, of this city. It is from the pen of that talented and scientific boxer, Edmund E. Price, who fought a draw with Joe Coburn and defeated Australian Kelly.

ERRATA.—In the record of Jack Hicks, published in another column, an error occurs in regard to his last fight, which was with Bendoff instead of Tom McKelvie (the proposed match with whom never came to anything) and took place in the London District early in November, at catch weight. It was an off-hand affair, fought on the quiet, in the presence of some thirty of the upper strata. Jack was seconded by Dick Richards and a friend, while Joe Wormald and Bill Riley attended upon Bendoff, who fights above 154lbs. Hicks had the best of the infighting, but Bendoff proved the superior wrestler. They fought twelve rounds in one hour, when Jack consented to make it a draw, both men having their left lamps closed for repairs.

LET IT BE RECORDED.—The boys will bear in mind the fact that Sam Collyer, in his usual accommodating spirit, has given his word to be on hand and wind up with Billy Kelly, at the latter's benefit at the Everett Rooms, on Friday evening, 27th inst. This is a card which ought to draw like a six-horse mule team, for all who didn't have a chance to see 'em fight will want to contrast their style in a friendly bout with the gloves, and this is probably the only opportunity they'll have for many a day. Don't forget it. The Giant O'Baldwin, and his side-partner, Hicks, have also promised to attend.

BARNEY AARON VS THE UNKNOWN.—The third deposit of $500 a side, in this important 120lb. match, has to be forthcoming at Jack Leonard's, between the hours of eight and ten o'clock on Saturday evening next, the 28th inst. No further developments regarding the identity of the fistic artist selected to cope with Barney for the possession of "them five thousand" have as yet transpired, though the rumored transmission of a goodly sum toward the stakes from the West, on behalf of the mysterious personage, combined with facts already well-known to all, would seem to assert the correctness of public opinion in pointing to Patsy Sheppard as the man. Some interesting intelligence, bearing on the matter, may be expected at the tabling of the next instalment.

THE O'BALDWIN-HICKS TESTIMONIAL.—The New York Casino, corner Houston and Mulberry streets, has been secured for a grand complimentary benefit to the new arrivals, Ed. O'Baldwin and Jack Hicks, and Friday evening, 3d inst., is the fixture for the affair. An attractive programme has been prepared, nearly all the more prominent artists of New York, Brooklyn and vicinity having given their word to appear, and this, coupled with the great desire to see the Giant and his companion perform, will probably ensure a good attendance.

THE BRITISH CHAMPIONSHIP.—The two Joeys, Goss and Wormald, after considerable fiddling, have attached their autographs to a protocol binding them to fight at catch-weight for £100 a side, on March 3d, leaving out the champion's belt. A tenner a side was staked at the time of signing, and the second deposit of £5 a side was to be planked on or before the 13th instant.

THE WESTERN GIANT IN PORKOPOLIS.—McCoole was the lion of the day among the pork-packers last week, and took a benefit at the Palace Varieties on the 18th inst., the entertainment

BAGATELLE.

BAGATELLE MATCH AT CLEAVER'S.—The sporting division in general, and the Knights of the cue and ivories in particular, were extensively represented at the Half Way House, 320 Eighth avenue, on the evening of the 18th inst., the loadstone of attraction being the bagatelle match, 101 points, for $100 a side, between those up-town experts, Clarke Wilson and Charley Williams, the latter a professional recently from England. The former was backed by John Black, proprietor of the St. Charles Billiard Rooms, while Bill Cleaver risked a century upon Charley. The playing upon both sides was much above the average, Wilson pressing his opponent closely, amid frequent bursts of applause from the on-lookers, until near the conclusion of the game, when two splendid runs of 20 and 16 respectively gave the latter a decided lead, which he maintained to the end, ultimately winning by 35 points. We give the score:—Williams—1, 0, 7, 0, 4, 0, 3, 0, 4, 0, 13, 0, 3, 0, 1, 0, 20, 0, 1, 0, 5, 0, 6, 0, 16, 0, 9, 0, 8; total, 100. Wilson—5, 0, 1, 0, 6, 0, 11, 0, 5, 0, 6, 0, 4, 0, 9, 0, 2, 0, 1, 6, 16, 0, 1, 0, 1; total, 66.

THE SPHERES AT THE RAILROAD HOUSE.—A very interesting match, 200 points, for $50 a side and a *dejeuner* on a full-sized O'Bryan table, between four well-known cueists, was decided at the Railroad House, West Forty-second street, on Thursday evening, 19th inst. The parties were Bill Clever and J. O'Bryan, on the one side, and Robert Campbell and James Stimpson, on the other. The attendance was very large, embracing such billiard experts as Jimmy Brock, Mike Lynch, Jas. Hamill and others. Another game was well contested, lasting about one hour and fifteen minutes, and resulting in the lads from Staten defeating the representatives of the kilt and heather by twenty-six points. The playing of Campbell would have opened the eyes of the "Father of Billiards," while that of "O'B." was fit for a King.

MATCH ON THE CARPET.—Clarke Wilson and Charley Williams, who lately played a match at bagatelle, in which the former was defeated, have been matched this time, at billiards, to play a home and home match of 1:0 points, for $100 a side, caroms. The first game will be played at the St. Charles Billiard Rooms, 584 Eighth avenue, on the 27th inst.

FUN AT THE BREWERY SHADES.—Boxing Day will be celebrated at King's Brewery Shades, West Forty-first street, by the proprietor offering a corpulent porter for competition among the frequenters of this establishment who are addicted to bagatelle and skittles.

COCKING.

COCKING CHALLENGE TO THE WORLD.

The subjoined business-like challenge, backed up by a century in paper, is from a well-known fancier in the Quaker City and to it we call the attention of Mulholland, Bray and others who are generally on the look-out for such offers:—

ED. CLIPPER.—I will fight any man in the country a main of fowls, for $100 a battle and $500 the main. Show twenty-one cocks and fight all that fall in, putting up $500 on the making of main, and put up $100 a battle on all that fall in at time of weighing; each man to furnish his own set of gaffs and toss for choice to be used in the first fight; gaffs to be changed and used alternately, and the main to be fought in accordance with the Philadelphia Rules; give or take expenses to fight anywhere. I will leave the $100 now in your hands for a period of two weeks as an earnest of my intentions. Yours, &c.,

Philadelphia, Dec 20, '67. JOHN DUFFY.

A CHANTICLEER BATTLE is arranged to take place on the 26th inst., we are informed, at Albany, N. Y., between New York and Albany poultry, for $2,000.

THE TRIGGER.

For Sale.--A Double-Barrelled English Gun, by Bently, of Liverpool. No. 12 bore, made expressly for his late R. H. Prince Albert, one of the most powerful shooting guns in the U. S. Address JOSEPH GREAVES,
38-1t* P. O. Box 71, Franklinville, Cattaraugus Co., N. Y.

PIGEON POPPING IN JERSEY.—William Taylor, of Jersey City, and Moses Meyer, of Paterson, tried their skill in a match for $50 on the 18th inst. The conditions were to shoot at fifty single birds, with 1½oz. shot, 18 yards rise and 100 yards boundary. Moses won by a score of thirty to twenty-eight.....On the day previous a spot near Hackensack was the fixture for a one hundred dollar match between Joe Tyson and Mark Steers, which the former won. Philo L. Snow, Tyson, Anderson and Tom Taylor, then shot for a sweepstakes, which Tyson captured by bringing down every bird.....We understand that two matches are arranged to come off shortly—the one at Trenton and the other at Greenville—between Miles Johnson and Moses Meyer, for $500, the conditions being twenty-five double birds, 1½oz. shot.

PIGEON MATCH IN OLD KAINTUCK.—A match at twenty pair of double birds each, 21 yards rise, 100 yards boundary, for $50 a side, was shot at Greenland Race Course, near Louisville, Ky., between Andrew Peacock and Clarence Prentice, on one side, and Henry Howard and David Needy, on the other, the first named couple winning by a score of 28 to 22. After this match was concluded, Needy and Prentiss shot at five double, each for $25 a side, when the former won by pinking eight to his opponent's five. The weather was very cold, and snow falling on the day.

SKITTLES.

Glorious Times at the Half Way House!
320 EIGHTH AVENUE, NEAR 27TH STREET.
OLD COUNTRY CHRISTMAS SPORTS!
Bagatelle, Skittles, Singing and Merry-Making.
☞ GREAT HANDICAP SKITTLE MATCH
FOR A SHEEP ON BOXING DAY.
38-1t WILLIAM CLEAVER, Proprietor.

SKITTLE PLAYING FOR A SHEEP.—To make sport more interesting on Boxing Day, Dec 26th, there will be something novel in the way of a handicap skittle match at Cleaver's well known Half Way House, 320 Eighth avenue, for a fattened sheep, fully dressed and prepared for the *cuisine*, which, combined with the many other attractions gotten up by the brothers for the occasion, will ensure lively times there on the 26th, and all who drop in will be certain to enjoy themselves. Sport to commence at noon, and no charge for entrance.

CANINE.

JACK BROWN TO HARRY JENNINGS.

"It's a long lane that has no turning" is an adage that don't hold good in the dogolistic controversy between the above Boston dog fanciers, who experience much trouble in coming to terms for two men who profess to mean fighting and nothing else, although it don't look like it. If the annexed letter don't bring about a match "there's an end on't," as far as the CLIPPER is concerned. Read the last epistle to the Athenians:—

"BOSTON, Dec 20th, '67.

"ED. NEW YORK CLIPPER.—Harry Jennings came to my house the other day, and after considerable discussion refused to fight according to the terms of his acceptance of my 28th. challenge unless the dogs fought in New York, while I agreed to fight any place within 20 miles of Boston. My dog is backed by working men, who cannot afford to go so far from home. Jennings was in my house when I received a letter from New Orleans proposing to fight the Rolling Mill dog against mine for $500 a side, and he heard said letter read. I am ready to fight the New Orleans dog, and if lucky enough to win I will afterwards give Jennings a chance, providing he will agree to fight for $500 within 20 miles of this city. I can be found at 195 Endicott street any time. Yours truly, JACK BROWN."

SPORTS ABROAD.

THE KELLEY AND SADLER MATCH.—The £600 stakes in this match were handed over to Kelley publicly at the Canterbury Hall, London, Eng., on the 4th inst. Sadler and his backer (Mr. Foster) were present; and both the scullers were well received. Kelley, in some brief remarks, expressed his opinion that he had won the first day's race; and, on the other hand, Mr. Foster contended that the foul on that occasion should have decided the event in favor of Sadler, on the ground of Kelley boring him. He also protested against the course taken by Kelly the second day, in coming so far into mid-stream when he had chosen the north side, after winning the toss. Rumors of Sadler having offered to row Kelley on the Tyne having appeared in the Newcastle papers, Kelley said he was willing to stake £500 to £460, to row on the Tyne within a month—a proposition which did not find favor with Mr. Foster, who argued that Sadler had been so long in training that a continuance of it at present would be prejudicial to his constitution. Sadler was, however, willing to row Kelley on the Tyne late in April or early in May next, for an even £500 a side. This was objected to by Mr. Bush as all in favor of Sadler and against Kelley, and so the affair was allowed to rest; but Kelley has since issued a challenge to row Sadler within a month on the Tyne, over a four miles and a half course, Kelley staking £500 to £400, with a bet, "to any reasonable amount," at evens. Should this proposal be declined, Kelley states that all further challenges to him will be useless, as he has resolved finally to retire. With regard to the law proceedings, Sadler's solicitor wrote to the stakeholder, giving final notice not to pay over the stakes to Kelley, but to return the deposit of £300 to Sadler. Failing that, he was instructed to submit the matter for the consideration of a jury. The reply was from the stakeholder's solicitor, expressing his willingness to accept service of any process that might issue.

GALLANT MILL AT NEWCASTLE.—On Saturday, Nov. 30th, a gallant and determined fight, for £5 a side, came off at Newcastle, Eng., between W. Taylor and J. Chesters, of Jarrow. Taylor, it will be remembered, had a shy in the spring with J. Wardle, when he left off, having at the time much the best of the battle. He has since been quiet until the present occasion, when his friends were induced to try him against Chesters, an old and well-tried pugilist. The stake, as stated above, was only £5 a side, and the scene of operations was to the west of the Grand Stand on the Newcastle Town Moor. The encounter, which was prolonged and severe, was characterised by some clever hitting, the old-un being the most scientific, and after 27 rounds Chesters was hailed the victor. Both were well mished.

REES AND BISHOP, FOR £20.—This fight for £20, at catch-weight, tween Swaddy Rees and Harry Bishop, came off on the 9th st. in the Bristol district, Eng. It resulted in a gallant mill, ting two hours and twenty minutes, on the heights of Dun- . About 200 patrons of the ring were present, and from the teenth round the betting was all on the "old 'un" (Swaddy). the expiration of the above time, after a really fine display of skill and science, especially on the part of Swaddy, the police showed. Some time was cut to waste by the men and their supporters remaining in the locality, and ultimately, Rees having got away, Bishop fell into the hands of the police.

DEATH OF A NOTED TURFMAN.—Our latest foreign files bring us intelligence of the decease of Robert Cassidy, a gentleman who, of late years, has been prominently connected with the interests of the Irish turf, to which his death is a great blow, as from the enthusiasm and energy he displayed he promised at an early day to have a large stud of horses.

WINDY.—J. H Adams will whistle any man within 50 miles of London, for £1 up to £5, who has never whist ed for a like sum.

PEDESTRIANISM.

TEDDY MILLS TO W. E. HARDING.

He Will Run Harding Three Miles for £1,000.

SHALL WE HAVE AN INTERNATIONAL MATCH?

Shortly, subsequent to W. E. Harding's attaining to the position of "Champion Three Mile Runner of America" by vanquishing De Kelso, of Canada, on the 19th of last August, he forwarded a formal challenge to England offering to compete with Teddy Mills, Bill Fleet, Bill Lang, Richards, Sanderson, or any man in Britain, in a three mile race for the sum of $5 000, allowing a reasonable amount for expenses in case the match was made to be decided in this country. Since then the sporting public have impatiently awaited some sort of a response, favorable or otherwise, from one or more of the fleet-footed bipeds beyond the billows, but lapse of time and prolonged silence caused everybody to think that none of them cared to tackle a runner credited with cutting out the work at such an extraordinary pace. We are now, however, in a position to announce, through information direct from headquarters, that there is a reasonable prospect of a meeting being brought about between the rivals of the two hemispheres if neither man is disposed to quibble over trifles.

Said information comes in the shape of a letter from Wm. Price, manager of the Hackney Wick Race Grounds, London, Eng., and backer of Mills, Fleet, Richards and others, to John Goulding, formerly of the Prince of Wales Grounds, Bow, but now of Brooklyn, L. I., wherein it is stated that Teddy Mills is ready to make a match to run Harding a three mile race in England for £500 a side, and will allow £100 to defray expenses. With the exceptions of the stipulation to run in England the terms are the same as proposed by Harding in his original challenge, but whether he will consent to follow the example of Morphy, Heenan, Mace, Hamill and others, and beard the lion in his den, is yet to be seen. It is about time that some of the champions of Britain should reciprocate past favors by coming over here and treating us to the sight of an international match, and now, when pedestrian sports are at a low ebb on the other side, and proportionately prosperous here—more so than they have been for many years—an excellent opportunity is presented for some ambitious high-pressure pedalist to take the initiative and combine pleasure with profit. On the score of treatment they need have no hesitation in making the trip, for they can rest assured of being well received, kindly treated during their stay, and if they can succeed in taking the wind out of the sails of our champion no interference will take place to prevent their accomplishing that object.

If Mills consents to come over, he may rely upon having a fair field and an equal chance of winning with our representative—for the truth of which assertion we refer him or any one else to William Gray, who came from Ireland to play Foulkes at rackets in this city, was victorious, and returned to the old country with a very favorable impression of the New World. Thos. Watters, his backer, Joe Gray, or Peter Morris, the feather-weight champion. In case both men are opposed to journeying from home—and everybody must admit that Harding has the most cause to be, aside from his professional duties as a member of the "fourth estate"—without a chance of getting hunk, should they meet with foul play, we would suggest the advisability of making it a home-and-home match, which besides presenting other advantages, would give the people of both countries the desired opportunity of viewing the sport, and tend to give an impetus to the pastime—a consummation sadly needed in England at present. To this proposition neither man should offer any objection, as it would prevent the possibility of either obtaining the slightest advantage. We expect to hear favorably from Harding in season for our next issue.

CHALLENGE FROM GOULDING.

We have been handed the subjoined challenge by Jack Goulding, the well-known English trainer, formerly of the Hackney Wick Grounds, Bow, London, Eng.:—

ED. CLIPPER.—*Dear Sir*—I will undertake, providing a suitable hall can be engaged, to perform one or all of the following feats, and do my best to win fairly and honestly:—1st, walk 50 miles in 9 hours; 2d, 100 miles in 20 hours; 3d, 300 miles in 60 hours; or I will make a match with Robt. Horriott, (who has challenged any man in America to walk 1,000 miles,) the man who covers the most ground in one week or one month, to be the winner. If any gentleman can make the necessary arrangements, I shall be pleased to negotiate with him. Yours truly, JOHN GOULDING.

WHEW!—The Louisville and Cincinnati papers speak of a one hundred yards spin which took place on the 10th inst., at Covington, Ky., between George Johnson, of Canada, and John Wesley, of Ohio, for $500 a side, and credit the former with the victory in the unheard of and unthought of time of *eight and one half seconds*. It *may* have been so, but we kinder guess the track was a trifle short at both ends, or else the repeater was shut down a "leetle previous." This is the same Johnson against whom Harding, of this city, offered to match a novice for any amount at his favorite distance. The match can still be got on, and if the member from Canuck can make anything like such time as the above, he ought to be anxious for a go. If he don't respond favorably, the public will set him down for an impostor. He must win his laurels before he can wear them here.

A TWENTY MILE WALK.—A short time since W. R. Hibbard, of Jackson, Mich., made a wager in the sum of $400, as follows:—$100 that he could walk twenty miles in five consecutive hours, $200 that he could make the first five and a half miles in one hour, and $100 that he could walk the first ten miles in two hours. He accomplished the feat in 3 hours and 58 minutes and 36 seconds, making the first 5½ miles in 54:53, the ten miles in 1 hour 54 minutes 48 seconds, and the final mile in 10:16.

BALL PLAY.

The Book of the Season.
CUT-DOOR SPORTS NO 2,
Containing instructions on training for
PEDESTRIANISM,
LONG AND HURDLE JUMPING,
RUNNING, DUMB BELLS,
BASE BALL PLAYING, and all other athletic sports for improvement and benefit of health. The author of this little work has been a
PRACTICAL TRAINER IN ENGLAND
for the last five years, and comes to our shores with highest honors and recommendations from some of the greatest athletes in the world.
Persons wishing to engage in any of the above sports will find in this book complete and minute instructions.
PRICE, 10 CENTS.
ANDREW PECK & CO., Publishers,
38 1t 105 Nassau street, N. Y.

AVERAGES OF PHILADELPHIA CLUBS.—We have already devoted much space to averages of the most prominent Philadelphia clubs. During the season we presented scores of all the most important games in which the Quaker City, Keystone, Athletic, etc., took part. The reader, we presume, does not care to go over a long string of figures which have already been given in the way of scores etc. In reference to the season's play of the Athletic Club, it may be sufficient to say that the total number of games played by them was 47, of which 41 were with association clubs, and six with clubs not belonging to the association. In the 47 games, consisting of 403 innings, they scored 2,209 runs, being an average of 47 runs to a game, and 5-104 to an innings. In the same number of games their opponents scored 695 runs, being an average of 14-37 runs to a game, and 1-292 to an inning. The largest number of runs made by them in a single game was 118, the lowest 16, while the largest number of runs made against them by their opponents in a single game was 32 and the lowest 3. The Athletics played with a number of clubs that have not, as yet, made great headway: consequently their figures look large. Their great aim was the championship, which was lost by questionable management and bad play. The Unions, of Morrisania, who played well during the season, eclipsed the Athletics, in so far as they wrested the championship from the Atlantics, although they scarcely expected to be so successful.

WALTER BROWN TO JIMMY HAMILL.

The Portland oarsman was in town last week, and left the subjoined challenge:

ED. NEW YORK CLIPPER—*Sir.*—I will row James Hamill a five mile race, straight, in Portland Harbor, for $500 or $1,000 a side, and give him $350 for expenses. In June, 1868. Three responsible judges to be mutually selected and to accompany the men over the course, and two to decide. We have each won a race, and all I desire is one more chance, which I hope Mr. Hamill will allow me. Yours, &c., WALTER BROWN.

MCLAREN VS. SCOTTY.—The match between Jas. McLaren and A. Tinnock, *alias* "Scotty," for $200 a side, came off on Wednesday and Friday last, Dec. 18th and 20th. The first took place at James Light's Quoiting Grounds, Brooklyn, on Wednesday, and was won by McLaren by 25 points, having scored 61 to his opponent's 36. The second day's play came off at McLaren's ground, Newark, N. J., and after a keenly contested game, Tinnock came out winner by six points, having scored 61 to McLaren's 55.

DION'S BILLIARD SALOON at Montreal, C. E., has been destroyed by fire, the telegraph tells us, and we believe the conflagration occurred on the 22d inst.

PULSE IRREGULAR, PAIN, PAIN IN THE RIGHT SIDE, sense of weariness and exhaustion, no appetite, out of spirits, brain muddled, troubled sleep. What does all this mean? It means BILLIOUSNESS. Arrest the mischief by an immediate resort to HOSTETTER'S BITTERS. In three days they will make you, as the saying is, "a new man."

ADVICE TO SKATERS.—Before going on the ice bathe your feet in cold water, dry them perfectly, and give them a good rubbing with a crash towel, put on a pair of woolen or heavy cotton stockings, and your feet will remain comfortably warm for three or four hours in the coldest weather.

A STEAM WEDDING.—A conductor on the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railway, recently concluded that if a young couple who were in the sleeping car were not married they ought to be. Accordingly, at Crestline, in the morning, he sent out for a parson, compelled the young man to get a license, and had the ceremony carefully performed.

TALL FISHING.—A party of gentlemen in Hamburg, Missouri, went out a few days ago to a creek near there, with a seine, and at one haul caught 1,034 fish, the smallest of which weighed four and the largest sixteen pounds. The results of a couple of hours' fishing were six wagon loads.

THE BEAUTIFUL HELEN.—Every one speaks of the beautiful Helen, but few are aware that she had five husbands—Theseus, Menelaus, Paris, Deiphobus and Achilles; that she was hanged in the Isle of Rhodes by the servants of Polixio, and that in the war of which she was the cause, 886,000 Greeks and 670,000 Trojans were slain.

AN ARTISTIC REMARK.—"Look here, ma," said a young lady, just commencing to take lessons in painting, "see my painting; can you tell me what it is?" Ma, after looking at it some time, answered, "Well, it is either a cow or a rose-bud—I'm sure I can't tell which."

OUR GAME BAG.

Golden Gleanings—Merry Thoughts—Wise Proverbs—Fun and Sentiment.

PROVERBS POETICALLY PUT.

Act well your part, there all the honor lies,
A little loaf is better far than none;
The smallest spark will cause a flame to rise,
Work well commenced is more than three parts done.

He dances well to whom dame fortune pipes,
A wilful man will always have his way;
Dependence is a business that gripes,
Early to bed and rise by break of day.

A little learning does a deal of harm,
They starve in frost who will not work in heat;
The early bird it is that gets the worm,
A crust by labor earned is always sweet.

Pride costs more than hunger, thirst and cold,
Do unto others as you'd be done by;
One story's good until another's told,
A stitch in time saves nine, or very nigh.

QUIBBLE AGAINST QUIBBLE.—Some years ago, Frederick Reynolds, the dramatist, took a house at Westminster, and bound himself (as he thought) to paint the inside once during the seven years' lease; but in a subsequent covenant, which, if Reynolds read, he did not understand, there was so much technicality and ground for quibbling as to the exact period for commencing the aforesaid coloring operation, that at the end of the first year, the landlord (a most litigious and vexatious attorney) brought an action for breach of contract, but which the eccentric dramatist defeated by immediately painting the whole of the inside of the house—*black!*

ALTITUDE OF THE BRITISH MOUNTAINS.—The principal chain of mountains in Scotland is the Grampians, which comprise all the highest elevations except Ben Nevis. Ben Macdhu rises 4,390 feet above the sea level, Cairntoul to 4,245 feet, Cairngorm to 4,095 feet, Ben Lawers 3,945 feet. Ben Nevis—north-west of the Grampian chain—attains an elevation of 4,370 feet. In Wales, the Glyder Fawr attains a height of 3,300 feet; the Girder Bach, 3,000 feet; Carnedd Llewelyn, 3,469 feet; Carnedd Dafydd, 3,427 feet; Snowdon, 3,571 feet.

LOST HIS BALANCE.—"Who is he?" said a passer-by to a policeman, who was endeavoring to raise an intoxicated individual that had fallen into a gutter. "Can't say, sir," replied the policeman; "he can't give any account of himself." "Of course not," replied the other; "how are you to expect an account from a man who has lost his balance?"

EPITAPH ON A KITTEN.

Here lies, by death smitten,
A hapless young kitten,
To moulder away in the dust;
Oh, had it lived longer,
It might have been stronger,
And died somewhat older, we trust.
Had it grown up to cathood,
Then many a rat 'ould
Have mourned in the deepest of woe;
Let the curtain be drawn to,
We hope it has gone to
That land where other cats go.

ABOUT MY UNCLE.—What is a pawnbroker? A chess-player who checkmates society with a 'pawn." Does he give any entertainments in honor of his business? Yes; three balls. No dinner? None; with him it is "Lent" all the year round.

STRANGE BUT TRUE.—What strange creatures girls are! Offer one of them good wages to work for you, and ten chances to one if the old woman *can spare any of her girls*; but just propose matrimony, and see if they don't jump at the chance of working a lifetime for their victuals and clothes.

A RHODE ISLAND clergyman lately illustrated the necessity of corporal punishment for the correction of juvenile depravity, with the remark that 'the child, when once started in a course of evil conduct, is like a locomotive on the wrong track—it takes the *switch* to get it off."

A LESSON IN GRAMMAR.—Teacher.—"What part of speech is the word 'egg?'" Boy.—'Noun, sir." "What is its gender?" "Can't tell, sir." "Is it masculine, feminine, or neuter?" "Can't say, sir, till it's hatched." "Well, then, my lad, you can tell me the case?" "Oh, yes, the shell, sir."

SUGGESTIVE.—"My dear," said Mrs. Bumble to her daughter, "you must have something warm around you in the carriage." Miss B. mentioned the request of her mother to her beau, and he immediately complied with it by placing his arm around the young lady's waist.

"SPARE THAT GIRL."

Youngster, spare that girl!
Kiss not those lips so meek!
Unruffled let the fair locks curl
Upon the maiden's cheek!
Believe her quite a saint!
Her looks are all divine,
Her rosy hue is paint—
Her form is crinoline!

JAMES JAM'S EXPERIENCE.—A Southern editor states that during the recent hurricane, with the aid of a glass, he could distinctly see animals and serpents passing through the air at an immense height. He probably looked through a glass of whiskey.

"WHICH, my dear lady, do you think the merriest place in the world?" "That immediately above the atmosphere that surrounds the earth, I should think." "And why so?" "Because I am told that there all bodies *lose their gravity*."

A MAN having hurt his forehead, was advised to rub it with brandy. Some days after, being asked if he had done so, he answered, "I have tried several times, but can never get the glass higher than my mouth."

MISCALCULATION.—A drunken fellow got out of his calculation and was dozing in the street, when the bells roused him by their ringing for fire. "Nine, ten, eleven, twelve, thirteen, fourteen," cried he; "well, if this isn't later than I ever knew it!"

SERIOUS CHARGE.—A feeble-looking boatman was recently summoned for doing "grievous damage" to the East river. In the course of evidence it was proved that he had twice attempted to pull up the stream.

A STRAIGHT AND A FULL.—The President was closeted with Generals Grant and Sherman for a long time on Saturday. Whisky straight is supposed to have been the subject under consideration, but, perhaps, some one of them held a full.

A BRAVE GENERAL.—General Sheridan visited the Chicago High School, and the pupils sang "Rally round the Flag," and when retiring was captured and kissed by the lady scholars and teachers. He stood it beautifully.

PROVERBIAL PHILOSOPHY.—"There is no place like home." Fallacious. If your home be in a row of houses, it is probable that the homes of your neighbors will be very like yours.

A LADY lately had her likeness taken by a photographist, who executed it so well that that her husband prefers it to the original.

WHEN is a steamboat like a witness in a trial? When it is bound to a pier.

WHY cannot a gentleman legally possess a short walking stick? Because it can never be-*long* to him.

IT'S SINGULAR.—Well, of course *it* is. Who ever said *it* was *plural?*

"MY fare is foul," as the boatman said when he was carrying some poultry to market.

A THIEF, who lately broke open a grocer's warehouse, excused himself on the plea that he only went to take tea.

A MUSICAL DOG in New Albany, Ind., plays on the piano and sowls; so does a young lady residing next door.

TRAINING OF ROMAN SOLDIERS.

The Roman soldier was trained to march twenty miles a day, under a burden of eighty pounds; yea, to swim rivers, to climb mountains, to penetrate forests, and to encounter every kind of danger. He was taught that his destiny was to die in battle. He expected death. He was ready to die. Death was his duty and his glory. He enlisted in the armies with little hope of revisiting his home. He crossed seas, and deserts, and forests, with the idea of spending his life in the service of his country. His pay was only a denarius daily, equal to about sixteen cents of our money. Marriage was discouraged or forbidden. He belonged to the state, and the state was exacting and hard. He was reduced to abject obedience yet he held in his hand the destinies of the empire. And however insignificant was the legionary as a man, he gained importance from the great body with which he was identified. He was the servant and the master of the state. He had an intense *esprit du corps*. He was bound up in the glory of his legion. Both religion and home bound him to his standards. The golden eagle which glittered in his front was the object of his fondest devotion. Nor was it possible to escape the penalty of cowardice, or treachery, or disobedience. He could be chastised with blows by his centurion; his general could doom him to death. Never was the severity of military discipline relaxed. Military exercises were incessant, in winter as in summer. In the midst of peace the Roman troops were familiarized with the practice of war.

It was the spirit which animated the Roman legions and the discipline to which they were inured which gave them their irresistible strength. When we remember that they had not our firearms, we are surprised at their efficiency, especially in taking strongly fortified cities. Jerusalem was defended by a triple wall and the most elaborate fortifications, and twenty-four thousand soldiers, beside the aid received from the citizens, and yet it fell in little more than four months before an army of eighty thousand, under Titus. How great the science to reduce a place of such great strength in so short a time, without the aid of other artillery than the ancient catapult and battering ram! Whether the military science of the Romans was superior or inferior to our own, no one can question that it was carried to utmost perfection before the invention of gunpowder. We are only superior in the application of this great invention especially in artillery. There can be no doubt that a Roman army was superior to a feudal army in the brightest days of chivalry. The world has produced no generals superior to Cæsar, Pompey, Sulla and Marius. No armies ever won greater victories over superior numbers than the Roman, and no empire of their size ever retained in submission so great an empire and for so long a time. At no period in the history of the empire were the armies so large as those sustained by France in time of peace. Two hundred thousand legionaries and as many more auxiliaries controlled diverse nations and powerful monarchies. The single province of Syria once boasted of a military force equal in the number of soldiers to that wielded by Tiberius. Twenty-five legions made the conquest of the world, and retained that conquest for five hundred years. The self-sustained energy of Cæsar in Gaul puts to the blush the efforts of all modern generals except Frederick II, Marlborough, Napoleon, Wellington, Grant, Sherman, and a few other great geniuses which a warlike age developed; nor is there a text-book on the art of war than that furnished by Cæsar himself, in his Commentaries. And the great victories of the Romans over barbarians, over Gauls, over Carthagenians, over Syrians, were not the result of a short lived enthusiasm, like those of Attila and Tamerlane, but extended over a thousand years. The Romans were essentially military in their tastes and habits. Luxurious senators and nobles showed the greatest courage and skill in the most difficult campaigns. Antony, Cæsar, Pompey and Lucullus were at home enervated and luxurious, but at the head of the legions were capable of any privation and fatigue. The Roman legion was a most perfect organization, a great mechanical force, and could sustain furious attacks after vigor, patriotism and public spirit had fled. For three hundred years a vast empire was sustained by mechanism alone.

THE SERPENT'S VICTIM.--A TALE OF THE SEA.

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER.

The captain's son, Harry Marline, was a great favorite with the men aboard the brig Cameron, bound from New York to the coast of Guinea for gold, ivory, feathers, &c., &c.

Harry was light and swift of foot. He could run aloft from the deck to the main truck in just one minute, could climb the leeches of the sails as swift as a squirrel, and could walk out on a yard with the ship rolling and plunging in a gale. Although but seventeen years old, yet he was so strong that he could hoist the maintop-gallant yard without assistance, and in wrestling, could throw those much older and larger than himself.

He had a "will of his own," and when his mind was made up to perform a good action, no obstacle could turn him from the eventual accomplishment of his purpose. Unfortunately for the lad, his father was something of a tyrant, and was ever endeavoring to curb such good impulses of his son as prompted him to save his own share of cake or duff to carry forward to some favorite old tar, or to solicit his parent to grant a watch below to the men when they were fatigued with hard and continuous labor.

On one occasion the cruel skipper actually tied his son in the rigging, and flogged him severely with the cat-o'-nine-tails, because he interfered between the mate and a delicate boy whom that officer was kicking from one side of the deck to the other.

This punishment did not prevent the high-spirited Harry from knocking down the third mate with a handspike soon after, while that person was hauling a sick man out of his bunk.

"So you are determined to disobey me!" roared Captain Marline, as he rushed forward and caught his son by the hair of his head. "So you think to knock down my officers with impunity! Come aft here, you young dog!"

He dragged the lad to the quarter-deck, and having summoned the steward to bring up a pair of handcuffs, he secured the youngster and thrust him into the run, fastening the hatch above him.

The men on deck had watched the proceeding with sullen faces without daring to interfere. In fact, there was such a mixture of the Spanish, the English, Irish and Portuguese element among the crew, that they could never "hang together"—could not agree upon any concerted plan of action.

A week after the occurrence related, the Cameron arrived off the Guinea coast, when the captain, lowering and manning his boats, had the brig towed up a wide stream, navigable for several miles through the heart of a dense forest, ornamented with curious blossoms, gigantic trees with blood-red leaves, birds of the most variegated plumage, and ripe, golden oranges. Soon the brig was anchored off a settlement consisting of a few scattered huts, with the occupants of which the captain intended to trade for the valuable articles that were to make up his cargo.

About ten fathoms from the vessel, on the right bank of the stream, stood an enormous baobab tree, one of the branches of which almost touched the brig's main-top gallant yard arm. One night, while the moon was at her full, Jay reclined upon the forecastle deck, looking upward, when I beheld a small, slender object hanging from the branch alluded to. At first I thought it might be the tendril of a vine, which had become loosened; but perceiving that it kept writhing and twisting, I changed my mind. Mounting half-way up the rigging, the moonlight now enabled me to discover that the object was a small, slender serpent, amusing itself by various gymnastic performances.

I whispered the information to some of my shipmates, who had followed me, when they descended to the deck and procured hatchets to destroy the reptile. I vainly endeavored to dissuade them from their intention. They crawled out near the end of the yard arm and boldly struck at the serpent. The little creature, being wounded, dropped to the deck, and crawling along, made its way into the forehold, the hatch of which was open. With a shout my shipmates pursued, and finally succeeded in killing the reptile.

Meanwhile I became aware of a strange buzzing, hissing kind of noise, which seemed to fill the air all around my head. At first, although glancing on every hand, I could see nothing; but suddenly chancing to direct a look towards the dark branches of the baobab tree, I caught sight of a flat head and a pair of fiery, twinkling eyes. The next moment, crawling out upon the branch above the main-top-gallant mast, with its scaly body twisted into many coils, glistening in the moonlight, I beheld an enormous serpent glaring downward towards the deck. Instantly the thought flashed across my mind that this was the mother of the little reptile just killed by my shipmates! The angry hiss of the monster grew every moment louder; its forked tongue was thrust far outward; then, quick as lightning it disengaged itself from the branch, crawled downward along the mast, and darted past me, swift as a thunderbolt, into the forehold!

With yells of dismay, my shipmates, springing to one side, swung themselves on deck, and fastened the hatch above the hold.

"Then they rushed aft, and down into the cabin, to tell the captain what had happened. The skipper, waked from a sound sleep, was in no very good humor. He turned white, ground his teeth and swore horribly at all hands.

Then, arming the men with axes, hatchets, knives, and providing himself with a good musket, he ordered the fore hatch opened, believing that the serpent, after finding its dead young one, would make its egress by the same way it had come.

The angry hiss of the monster was heard for several moments after we opened the hold, but no sign of it became visible.

We waited and waited in breathless expectation, but all in vain. Finally, the hissing no longer was heard; it was followed by a grinding, scraping noise, as if the serpent was crawling along over casks and barrels. Several minutes passed, when we were startled by a half-stifled scream, that made every man's heart leap to his throat. The scream lasted but an instant; the next all below was as still as death.

"A queer noise that, for a serpent to make," remarked an old sailor, shaking his head.

"Ay, ay," answered the skipper, trembling in every limb. "My God! Oh my God! it cannot be!" he added, clasping his hand to his brow, as if struck by a sudden, terrible thought. "Men—men, there is no way the serpent could have got into the lower hold, is there?"

Provided with the lanterns my shipmates had used, while searching for the smaller reptile, we entered the fore hold and perceived that in the corner of the lower hatch there was an opening sufficiently large to have admitted the body of the monster snake!

"Follow me, men!" cried the captain, staggering like a drunken man, when this discovery was made known.

We followed him. He rushed into the cabin, he pulled up the run hatch and the light of the lanterns streaming into the hold revealed a horrible sight.

Harry Marline—that noble boy—the brig's favorite, lay clasped, folded up in the scaly coils of the serpent, which had already accomplished its work of throttling him to death, as was attested by his purple face, protruding tongue and bulging, blood-shot eyes!

With one, long, terrible conscience striken cry, the skipper fell unconscious, while the rest of us, rushing upon the monster, soon despatched her with our weapons.

Poor Harry had been dead for some minutes. We carried him on deck and in the morning, having made a rude coffin for his remains, we buried him among the rustling orange trees. His father, who felt painfully conscious that if he had not confined the lad in the run he would never have met with his terrible fate, worried himself into a fever, and eventually ended his days in a New York lunatic asylum.

AMUSEMENTS.

THE SHADOW PANTOMIME.

Mother Goose in a Shadow Pantomime, Dialogue, Figures and everything complete to form a Miniature Theatre for Parlor Amusements. Sent, post paid, on receipt of 25 cts. THOMAS YATES, 94 Christy st., New York. Agents wanted everywhere.

WANTED--AN ADVANCE AGENT, who thoroughly understands his business and can furnish strong recommendations for honesty, capacity, sobriety, and being a WORKER. Also one or two Actors who have a full and complete stage and street wardrobe. Drinking men and those who object to hard work need not apply. Name lowest terms for one year. Address McKEAN BUCHANAN,
38-1t Opera House, Springfield, Mass.

TENT FOR SALE CHEAP.
100 Foot Top and 12 Feet High. Apply to HENRY SPARKS,
38-2t* Tent Maker, 173 South st., New York.

WANTED IMMEDIATELY,--By the
WATERTOWN DRAMATIC CLUB,
Three Good Actresses. First Leading Lady, Juvenile Lady Old Lady. Address
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P. O. Box 629,
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FOR SALE--The following Burlesques, on
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P. S.—Two new songs will be sent to any address in the U. S. on the receipt of 25 cents. Address as above. 38-1t*

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Copies of the MSS. and Music of Offenbach's Comedy Opera (as performed at the Theatre Royal, Covent Garden, London,) and adapted to the American stage—for sale. Music arranged for full orchestra by HASSLER. OWEN FAWCETT,
38-1t Walnut Street Theatre, Philadelphia.

A CARD.
In answer to the notice relative to the CHICAGO COMBINATION, in absence of Mr. BACK, I take the liberty of saying, that the failure to go on with the company was owing to the INEFFICIENCY and DISSIPATION of the leading people. They were out two weeks—the first week they received all their salaries—the second a part of it, which was sufficient to pay all their expenses and return home, which was all he could do, and he knew his people would not warrant him in continuing longer with them.
He had just before been the same route with John Dillon, paid all salaries, and both made money.
38 1t* MRS. H. M. BACK.

SHORT HAND LESSONS by mail. For Circular
address MORR

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Wambold's Beautiful Ballads. Bernard's Readings. Billy Birch and Charley Backus, the Head Centres of Minstrelsy. 1t*

HOOLEY'S OPERA HOUSE, Brooklyn.
OPEN THE YEAR ROUND. NO CLOSING FOR REPAIRS.
The House has been Repainted and Redecorated, and the Company Reconstructed for 1867 and '68. The Company as now organized embraces a larger array of First Class Talent than has ever been concentrated in a Minstrel Troupe, embracing Comedians, Tragedians, Vocalists, Dancers and Instrumentalists, who will appear nightly in their Minstrel Illustrations. First class artists, particularly those having specialties, can always secure an opening by addressing H. M. HOOLEY, Proprietor. 24-tf

TO GIRCUS MANAGERS.
In reply to an advertisement in last week's issue of the Clipper, inserted by CHARLES TOURAINE (Touraine being an assumed name), whereby he cautions Circus Managers to beware of my brother and I, styling ourselves the TOURAINE BROTHERS. I wish to inform Circus Managers and Professionals that, having been a partner of the TOURAINE BROTHERS until lately, I am as well entitled to continue the name "TOURAINE" as the said CHARLES TOURAINE, and he being aware of my having a partner, and seeing my advertisement in the Clipper, seeks a mean and smutty way to do me harm as an act of revenge, thereby trying to destroy my progress.
I therefore make mention to Circus Managers and Professionals that my present partner and I shall RETAIN the name of TOURAINE BROS., to which we are fully entitled. Respectfully,
ROBERT TOURAINE,
Late of Forepaugh's Circus.
Address 129 South Third st.,
38-1t* Brooklyn, E. D., N. Y.

TO CIRCUS MANAGERS.
MLLE. LOUISE TOURNIAIRE, the dashing and graceful premiere equestrienne of the world, together with her daughter,
MARIE LOUISE,
one of the most graceful equestriennes of the day, can be engaged for the winter or coming tenting season, with three or six horses, together with her trick horse. Address her at
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Corner of Franklin and Mayo streets,
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NOW IN THE FULL TIDE OF SUCCESS.
Performers of acknowledged ability only address, stating lowest salary, [38-1t] JOHNNY HARRIS, Stage Manager.

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The Best CONTORTIONISTS, GYMNASTS, etc., in AMERICA, with their TROUPE OF ACTING DOGS,
"BEAUTY, CHIP, FANNY AND BILL,"
are ready to negotiate with Circus Managers for the season of 1868. Address GEO. WAMBOLD,
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Any information concerning the Banjo given. Address
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ONE LADY VOCALIST.
ALSO, ONE LADY DANCER.
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R. D. OGDEN, Director of
New Richmond Theatre.
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F. S. CHANFRAU, Theatre, Louisville, Ky.,
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36-9t* CHAS. THOS. PARSLOE, Jr., Agent.

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having a few weeks during the fall and winter still open, is prepared to negotiate with responsible managers of first class theatres for six or twelve nights. Her repertoire embraces Comedy, Tragedy, Musical Comedy, Irish and Scotch Farces, etc. All business communications should be addressed
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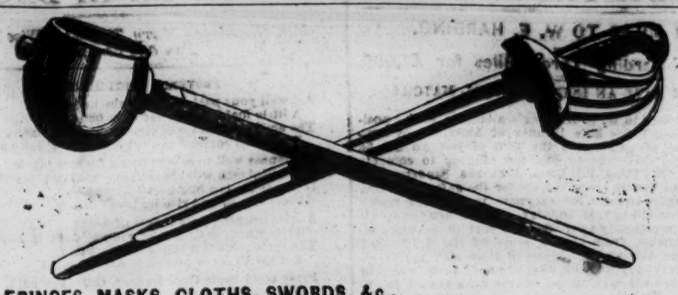

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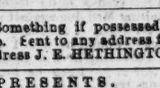
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